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7 YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA SUBSISTENCE
8 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
9 PUBLIC MEETING

10
11 Volume II
12 March 15, 2001
13 8:30 a.m.
14 Community Hall
15 Kotlik, Alaska
16

17 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

18
19 Harry Wilde, Sr, Chairman
20 Mary Gregory, Acting Secretary
21 Mike Savage
22 Lester Wilde, Sr.
23 James A. Charles
24 Alvin Owletuck, Alternate
25
26 Alex Nick, Coordinator

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record)

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Good morning. This morning we're going to work on first agencies report. We're going to try to use the fishery at last. We're kind of waiting for these two people from over in Kotlik. We'll give them a chance to come over, and at the same time try to give a chance to the people listen on this fisheries monitoring and all that stuff, and the management for 1991 (ph). If some one of the council would put it on the record, that's correct -- as you been -- if we could use this -- leave the.....

MR. L. WILDE: Oh, yeah. Mr. Chairman, then I move that we suspend the rules to go to item 15, agency report.

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Is.....

MR. L. WILDE: Until such time that the Fish and Game comes here.

MR. OWLETUCK: Second.

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by Alvin Owletuck. All who favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed, same sign.

(No opposing votes.)

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. 15, agency reports, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Mike Riorden.

MR. RIORDEN: Mr. Chairman, my agency report was pretty much dealing with just fish, and so if you'd want to wait on that, we can do that.

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

MR. RIORDEN: There isn't a representative from the Togiak.....

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

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1 MR. RIORDEN:Refuge at this time.

2
3 COURT REPORTER: Mr. Riorden?

4
5 MR. RIORDEN: Yes.

6
7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Will you.....

8
9 COURT REPORTER: I'm having trouble hearing
10 you.

11
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE:come up?

13
14 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, Mike
15 Riorden. My agency report dealt pretty much just with
16 fisheries and then the stuff I had yesterday. And then the
17 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge doesn't have a
18 representative here. There weren't any issues that were --
19 what do you have?

20
21 MR. NICK: Bulletin. Only bulletin.

22
23 MR. RIORDEN: The bulletins to pass out?
24 Okay. And then Mike Coffing was unable to make it, because
25 he's helping on a search over there out of Bethel, and Bob
26 Lafferty was unable to make it from Sport Fish Division.
27 And AVCP didn't send anybody to the meeting. They're kind
28 of in a lot of changes right now, so.....

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. We could move --
31 we could take AVCP out, if there's -- no one's not.....

32
33 MR. L. WILDE: Harry, I think what he's
34 saying is pretty much we've got all those three items,.....

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

37
38 MR. L. WILDE:item two under agency
39 report, item one there, and one and two after Alaska
40 Department of Fish and Game and AVCP, all those items I
41 guess we can strike, because there's nobody here.

42
43 MR. RIORDEN: That's right. There is a --
44 the State did provide a copy of the rebuilding plan for the
45 Kuskokwim, and I believe it's in your packet there.

46
47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So we have to strike
48 this agency reports all the way down to AVCP?

49
50 MR. L. WILDE: All the way to 14.

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Fourteen. All the way
2 to 14. Okay.

3
4 MR. RIORDEN: I guess so. I hadn't seen
5 this information bulletin, but it's from the Togiak Refuge,
6 and probably you could just read that if you wanted to just
7 do that.

8
9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Togiak? Yeah.

10
11 MR. RIORDEN: This thing that Alex just
12 gave you here is an information bulletin.

13
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead. You
15 want to take care of that?

16
17 MR. L. WILDE: You might as well to pass
18 the time.

19
20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

21
22 MR. RIORDEN: Okay. Actually, how about if
23 I do one other thing that we can pass the time with a
24 little bit, too. It's related to fisheries, but I think
25 you could -- we could talk about it now if you want. It's
26 we, Fish and Wildlife Service got \$400,000 this year from a
27 special appropriation from Senator Stevens. He put a rider
28 in a bill, and the money is to study contaminants in salmon
29 in the Yukon and the Kuskokwim rivers, and so their intent
30 -- we have some folks in Fairbanks that are going to be
31 working on this project. They're going to catch ten king
32 salmon, ten chum salmon from the Yukon and the Kuskokwim
33 rivers and sample them for contaminants, things like DDT
34 and heavy metals and things like that. And Jerry's passing
35 out the information bulletin on that. So this study will
36 be going on this summer, and we -- I've been working with
37 the guy who's going to do it out of Fairbanks, and we've
38 been meeting with the Public Health people in Anchorage,
39 and they're also going to look at the effects of potential
40 contaminants in these fish to humans as well as looking at
41 what the effects might have on the fish populations. So if
42 you hear about contaminants work going on this summer,
43 that's what this is related to. On the Kuskokwim, we're
44 going to do it right at Bethel, and I believe on the Yukon
45 they're going to do it at -- quite a ways upriver at the
46 rapids I believe or.....

47
48 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, Rampart.

49
50 MR. RIORDEN: Rampart.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible)

2 Rapids.

3

4 MR. RIORDEN: So I'm hoping that next year
5 when we meet in the spring there might be some results back
6 from that study hopefully, so you can have an idea what
7 kind of contaminants might be in the fish that we're
8 eating. Any questions on that study that's going to go on?

9

10 MS. GREGORY: Just -- you're just going to
11 study ten fish?

12

13 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah, it's going to be --
14 well, it's -- well, wait a minute, I think it's ten females
15 and ten males of each, king and chin -- and chum salmon.

16

17 One of the reasons that this study is
18 happening is because it was pushed by YKHC. In a small
19 study they did a couple years ago, they found some of the
20 women that were having babies there in Bethel, in the
21 umbilical cord blood from those women, the levels of DDE,
22 which is what's left of DDT after it metabolizes and -- or
23 after it's been in the environment for a while, and then
24 the humans use it. Anyway the level in the women in that
25 study, there were only 11 of them, but it was very, very
26 high. It was like two and a half times higher than found
27 anywhere else in any other study, so there's concern about
28 that. Nobody knows where that's coming from. And
29 obviously the one place -- one thing that everybody does
30 out here is eat fish, and so figuring that might be the
31 source of it. So we're hoping that's not the case, and it
32 probably isn't according to the people who have been
33 dealing with fish, but this study should answer that
34 question for everybody.

35

36 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, just for
37 my.....

38

39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

40

41 MS. GREGORY:for my concern, it would
42 be nice to know if -- what percent of those women were from
43 the Bethel area and what percent of them were from the
44 coastal area, because their food sources are different.

45

46 MR. RIORDEN: I asked the same question,
47 and apparently they intentionally sampled women that were
48 all the way from the upper portion of the Yukon, like Holy
49 Cross.....

50

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1 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh.

2

3 MR. RIORDEN:coastal people, and
4 people on the Kuskokwim, and they all had that.

5

6 MS. GREGORY: And -- okay.

7

8 MR. RIORDEN: But it was a very small
9 sample, and I think YKHC is working to study more on that,
10 too.

11

12 Mr. Chairman, if you'd like, I could
13 quickly go through this Togiak thing and give you an idea
14 of what they're doing over there. It's -- most of it's out
15 of the Unit 18 area, but if you like, I can quickly do
16 that.

17

18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.
19 Togiak.

20

21 MR. RIORDEN: Okay. Togiak National
22 Wildlife Refuge has been doing similar work to what we're
23 doing on the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, and we
24 cooperate on a lot of these studies, so I'm familiar with
25 some of them, and not too familiar with others. They're
26 trying over there to establish some weirs in -- on rivers
27 that are key to management of salmon in Bristol Bay, and
28 one of the places that they've been trying for quite a
29 while in on the Kanektok River above the village of
30 Quinhagak. Last year they attempted to get the weir in,
31 and the gravel was such that it all washed out around it,
32 and the weir ended up washing out, so it was not
33 successful. This year they received more funding from the
34 federal government to move the weir upriver to a better
35 place, and hopefully we can get the weir established in
36 that place and start counting fish going up the Kanektok
37 River.

38

39 There's a weir on the Goodnews River that's
40 been operated by Fish and Game for some time now, and it's
41 held up really well, and they were able to get good counts
42 last year.

43

44 They're trying to establish a weir on the
45 Togiak River. So far they haven't found a way to do it.
46 The river's pretty big, and the current technology with the
47 kinds of weirs that we have available now, they weren't
48 sure it was going to work, so they're trying to figure that
49 one out.

50

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1 They've been studying dolly varden on the
2 Togiak Refuge for several years now, because in the sport
3 fishery dolly varden are a pretty important species down
4 there, and also a lot of local people take them for
5 subsistence. It's been kind of interesting, some of the
6 dolly varden that they've tagged way up the stream on the
7 Togiak have ended up in some of the other rivers like
8 Kanektok. One of them was even captured in the Kuskokwim
9 River, so dolly varden are moving a lot more than people
10 expected them to. And so with this tagging study, and then
11 they've also got transmitters inside, they surgically put
12 transmitters inside some of the dolly varden and follow
13 them with radio -- by radio tracking. So they've learned a
14 lot about dolly varden by doing that.

15
16 And in addition to that, they're studying
17 char at the same time. They almost look the same. It's
18 hard to tell the difference between the two, and I believe
19 they're trying to get genetic samples from both of these
20 species in these rivers at the same time.

21
22 They started studying rainbow trout on the
23 Togiak Refuge years ago, and right now they're
24 concentrating their rainbow trout studies on the Togiak
25 River to try to find out where they're moving, where
26 they're wintering, and so they can -- there's a lot of
27 pressure on rainbow trout over there, because of the sport
28 fisheries, so they're trying to get as much information as
29 they can in order to protect those fish.

30
31 The have a small cooperative program with
32 Togiak I know to do some subsistence monitoring with the
33 people in Togiak. With the caribou, they're pretty much
34 doing the same thing with caribou we are. It's the same
35 herd, so they're working with us to keep collars on a bunch
36 of caribou, and they work Fish and Game and with Fish and
37 Wildlife Service in Bethel, and Fish and Game in Bethel, to
38 radio track those animals and an idea where the caribou are
39 at all times.

40
41 The study we talked about a little bit
42 yesterday in 17(A) along the Togiak River where they have
43 collars on moose, that study is continuing. Some of the
44 interesting things that have come out of that are the
45 amount of illegal harvest that's occurred. Nearly half of
46 the animals they've lost, the collared animals that they've
47 lost have been animals that were taken illegally, and
48 unfortunately a lot of those have been the ones that have
49 moved to Unit 18, so pretty much any moose that's been
50 moving out of the Togiak Valley into Unit 18 over toward

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1 the Kwethluk and that area doesn't have a long life
2 expectancy. So that's one of the things that we're working
3 on, and James and Robert and other people have been working
4 on that, and I'm looking for improvements there.

5
6 Let's see. Yeah, they're still maintaining
7 camps on the coast to monitor marine mammals, seals, walrus
8 down in that area.

9
10 They're going to continue to have their
11 river ranger program on the rivers where they have high
12 public use. They're collecting biological data and
13 contacting fishermen to get an idea of what they're
14 catching, and they're also working on maintaining safety on
15 the river and user conflicts, keeping them to a minimum.

16
17 These other two items that they have on
18 here, the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and the Education
19 and Outreach, don't particularly impact many people in this
20 area, except for the conservation plan they're developing
21 is a long-term or a long-range plan for how they're going
22 to manage the Togiak Refuge, and people in Unit 18, Eek and
23 Quinhagak and even Bethel, people in that lower part of the
24 river are going to have the opportunity to comment on how
25 the manage -- how the fisheries should be managed, and some
26 of the other things that occur on the Togiak Refuge.

27
28 That was kind of a -- I didn't want to read
29 the whole thing, it would have taken up too much of your
30 time this morning. Any questions on that?

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any questions for Mike?
33 Lester?

34
35 MR. L. WILDE: Mike, away from this a
36 little bit, but it concerns wildlife in the area. How is
37 your bird population coming in the refuge? Mainly the.....

38
39 MR. RIORDEN: I'm kind of glad you asked.
40 I wanted an opportunity to talk about that a little bit.
41 Generally the geese, especially the cackling Canada geese,
42 the white fronted geese, and brandt are all doing very --
43 pretty well. Brandt have been holding their own. They're
44 doing well. White fronted geese and cackling Canada geese
45 are real good high populations right now. And the reason
46 that there are those high populations is because of the
47 Goose Management Plan. If people on the Delta hadn't been
48 a part of that plan, I'm -- I would have not been surprised
49 if cackling Canada geese would be an endangered species
50 today.

1 The one population that we're very
2 concerned about still is emperor geese. In the 1960s that
3 population was somewhere around 150 to 160,000 birds, and
4 most of you that are from the coast probably remember lots
5 and lots of emperor geese flying. This last spring or last
6 -- no, it was the last fall count, there were 62,000 birds,
7 and the previous count was about 50,000 birds. So normally
8 over winter quite a few of the young birds die, so my guess
9 is that this spring when they come back, there will be
10 somewhere around 50 to 55,000 birds.

11
12 There's a lot of reasons why the population
13 is having trouble. Predation on the birds is -- thanks,
14 Liddy (ph). Predation on the birds is fairly high as you
15 can see on the front page. It gives you the chart for
16 emperor geese. Gulls take quite a few of the young birds
17 after they hatch out on the coast. But that's probably a
18 natural mortality that's always occurred to some extent.

19
20 The one thing we've tried to control, and
21 I'm sure you're -- most of you are well aware of it is the
22 spring subsistence hunting of the birds. Most of the
23 villages on the coast have ceased hunting on emperor geese.
24 A few birds are taken, but not very many, except in the
25 villages on the south coast, Kwigillingok and Kongiganak,
26 pretty much have told us in the meetings we've had out
27 there that they don't intend to quit hunting emperor geese,
28 and they're also continuing to use lead shot, which has
29 been a real problem on the Delta here causing poisoning of
30 ducks. So we're continuing to try to work with them, to
31 get them to quit shooting emperor geese so that we can get
32 the population to build back up for -- so that everybody
33 can hunt them again at some point. It's been closed since
34 1985 I believe, somewhere in there is when everybody agreed
35 to quit shooting emperor geese.

36
37 Last year as you know, we used helicopters,
38 it was the only way we could access hunters out there. It
39 was very controversial. I suspect it saved a lot of
40 emperor geese, but I didn't get a lot of sleep last spring
41 either, so we're trying to look for an alternative to doing
42 that, and we've got some meetings scheduled at the south
43 coast villages to try to that. But I guess if they're not
44 willing to stop shooting emperor geese, then we may will be
45 out there again this spring doing the same thing. Any -- I
46 don't want to call it pressure, but any advice you might
47 give to those villages to try to help conserve that
48 resource would be very, very helpful.

49
50 MR. L. WILDE: I notice there was quite an

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1 increase in emperor geese around Hooper Bay last fall.
2 There was.....

3
4 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah.

5
6 MR. L. WILDE:a number of them.

7
8 MR. RIORDEN: It was a real.....

9
10 MR. L. WILDE: A lot more so.....

11
12 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE:than in the past.

15
16 MR. RIORDEN: It was a real good production
17 year for emperor geese last year. They produced a lot of
18 young birds, and if they can con -- part of the problem is
19 survival over the winter is real low. For instance, a bird
20 that was hatched last summer, for -- or say 100 birds that
21 were hatched last summer, by the time they all headed down
22 to go to the Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutian Islands,
23 there's only about 30 or 40 of them left, so 60 of those
24 birds died on the delta, you know, either from gulls or
25 from foxes or, you know, just natural causes. And then
26 they go to the Aleutian Islands and by the time three years
27 is up and that bird is finally of the age that it can
28 breed, out of those 100 birds that were hatched that year,
29 only about one to two are still alive at that point, by the
30 time it gets to the time when they can actually start
31 laying eggs, so you've got to produce a whole lot of -- a
32 whole lot of birds on the delta, and then -- to build the
33 population back up, and that's been part of the problem is,
34 in the spring the birds that are coming back, the majority
35 of them are breeding age birds, you know, they're the
36 adults that have successfully laid eggs in the past, so
37 every one of those that we save increases the changes of
38 getting that population back up. And at the current rate
39 of growth -- right now it's increasing a little tiny bit
40 every year. At the current rate of growth, the estimate is
41 it will be 30 years before we're to a population where we
42 can hunt them. And if we can increase that just a little
43 bit, you know, get just -- you know, if we can stop the
44 hunting for about ten years, then it's very probable that
45 in ten years or so that the population would be high enough
46 to be hunted.

47
48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

49
50 MR. BENDER: Can we do with those birds

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1 like they do with fish?

2

3 MR. RIORDEN: What's that?

4

5 MR. BENDER: Get the eggs and hatch them
6 and keep them until you're sure they can make it down to
7 the states that first summer, keep them away from -- or
8 would they turn into domestic -- like, you know, the --
9 they tried that with fish, but it didn't work, they turned
10 into some.....

11

12 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah.

13

14 MR. BENDER:kind of domestic
15 (indiscernible). Could that be done with birds, or it's
16 just a lost cause, we have to.....

17

18 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah, it's not a.....

19

20 MR. BENDER:wait 30 years?

21

22 MR. RIORDEN: It's not a good plan for
23 geese, and these geese only go to the Aleutians anyway, so
24 they're all Alaskan birds.

25

26 MR. BENDER: Well, I was just thinking if
27 we could keep them away from the foxes and gulls when
28 they're really small long enough for them to
29 (indiscernible, coughing) and get their wings it would.....

30

31 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah.

32

33 MR. BENDER:be a little higher
34 survival rate. If you don't think so, you're the
35 biologist.

36

37 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah, we're not crazy about
38 it. Yeah, it's kind of like hatcheries. We're not crazy
39 about hatcheries either.

40

41 MR. BENDER: It is kind of like that.

42

43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Will you say your name
44 and -- so the recorder will pick you up?

45

46 MR. BENDER: Geof Bender, just
47 (indiscernible).

48

49 MR. RIORDEN: Mary?

50

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1 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I have a story
2 to tell.

3
4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

5
6 MS. GREGORY: I was in Anchorage not too
7 long ago, and I went to eat with my cousin who moved from
8 Bethel to Anchorage, and they were having -- and she told
9 me that lead shot broke her tooth.

10
11 MR. RIORDEN: Steel shoot.

12
13 MS. GREGORY: Or steel shot broke her
14 tooth, and it's costing her over \$1,000 to get it fixed.
15 And they were saying -- her husband, who is a non native,
16 was saying lead shots were better to eat, because when you
17 bit them, they smash, but not lead -- not steel shoots.
18 Well, that's how you eat your birds.

19
20 MR. RIORDEN: Well, I have another story, I
21 bit into a bit of steel shot, and it cost me \$2,000, so
22 I've got a new crown on my tooth from Dr. White there in
23 Bethel, so I wasn't too happy, either, but I'm a little
24 more careful now when eating steel-shot birds.

25
26 MS. GREGORY: It is hazardous to your
27 health.

28
29 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah.

30
31 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, James.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, James.

34
35 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman, Mike, you were
36 -- you mentioned Kwigillingok and Kongiganak, and the --
37 they were not doing what we -- or what you want them to do,
38 I mean, about lead -- changing to steel shoot and they kept
39 hunting those -- hunting birds on the -- hunting the, was
40 it emperors they.....

41
42 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah.

43
44 MR. CHARLES:were hunting, they were
45 not allowed to shoot. When I was RIT, we did some school
46 programs i all our respected -- respective area, or where
47 we were assigned to. And maybe that still would help some
48 of the -- some of your information passed on to the schools
49 and school kids so they can pass the word to their parents
50 when they go home. Maybe that would help some. 'Cause

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1 even Kwigillingok is in my area, I cannot tell them not to
2 use lead shots as a subsistence advisory council member.
3 But when I was working as RIT, it was easier for me to tell
4 people, 'cause I was doing village meetings them days,
5 school programs and not all people listened to us, then --
6 at the meetings, but there are some agree with the rules
7 and regulations that we pass on. And that would work in --
8 at the places like Kwigillingok and Kongiganak.

9
10 MR. RIORDEN: The problem is that they
11 won't allow us to even talk to the school kids. They won't
12 allow us to have any village meetings except when the
13 leaders are there. They won't allow us to go into the
14 schools. They won't even allow us to send the goose
15 calendars out. I do it anyway, but they told us that they
16 didn't want the goose calendars sent out. So, yeah, that's
17 been a -- I agree with you, the best place to go is to the
18 students. And I think that it was work that you guys did
19 in the schools 15, 20 years ago that has really made the
20 difference in a lot of these issues, 'cause, you know,
21 those students now are some of the leaders in the villages,
22 and they've dealt with people on these issues, but it's
23 been a tough time down there. We're working at it. You're
24 right, most of the people in those villages are wanting to
25 go along with it, and I think it's more of a leadership
26 issue than it is anything, and we're working at it. So
27 hopefully we'll get a better response this spring.

28
29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Carl Jack?

30
31 MR. JACK: I was down there at Kwig last
32 spring at the request from the Council to explain the
33 closed -- the opposition of (indiscernible) and when
34 talking to the folks down there, they see this as a much
35 more bigger issue. It's a question of retaining their
36 sovereignty. Basically saying that it's unfair for the
37 immigrants, that's their word, to come up to Alaska and
38 start telling them what to do. And they're very strong on
39 that point. So it's a much bigger issue than just the
40 goose itself. It's their effort to retain their cultural
41 values, their way of life, and they're seeing this as --
42 you know, as the means to -- to begin to draw the line.
43 That's the perception (indiscernible) that I got. So
44 perhaps using the new DOI policy might be the way to
45 go.....

46
47 MR. RIORDEN: Uh-huh.

48
49 MR. JACK:not just set aside the, but
50 to deal with them on so-called government-to-government

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1 basis and get (indiscernible). And that's where the
2 Service is obligating to follow those steps.

3
4 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, the one
5 point that I've been trying to make is on the -- especially
6 on the goose management plan is that that wasn't developed
7 by the Fish and Wildlife Service. That was, you know, a
8 plan that was developed by people all over the delta,
9 including representatives from that area. And actually
10 signed by people from that area. So Carl's right, I mean,
11 it's become a bigger issue in their mind than just geese,
12 and hopefully we can find ways to get through it anyway.

13
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

15
16 MR. BENDER: First a question, who is
17 telling you not send out the calendars, the tribes?
18 Or.....

19
20 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah, the.....

21
22 MR. BENDER:the federal government?
23 It's the tribes?

24
25 MR. RIORDEN: Traditional council, yeah.

26
27 MR. BENDER: You know, I'm one of them
28 guys, I really don't like it when white people try to boss
29 me around. I'm really ugly about it. Maybe I'm one of the
30 worst ones around here, but I get (indiscernible).....

31
32 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Bender.....

33
34 MR. BENDER:but -- oh, Geof.....

35
36 MS. GREGORY:I can't hear you.

37
38 MR. BENDER: Geof Bender.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: You have to speak up, Geof.

41
42 MR. BENDER: Huh?

43
44 MS. GREGORY: I don't know what you're
45 saying.

46
47 MR. BENDER: I'm one of those guys, I don't
48 like to be bossed around by white people, having them tell
49 me what to do. I go crazy, just like other people. Maybe
50 I'm the worst one in this room. I'm really ugly about it

00154

1 when they give us a hard time. But in the last 15 years
2 I've been kind of talking to federal government, and I -- I
3 don't get that way with you guys, because as we've been
4 progressing, we -- I don't see the problem with the federal
5 government that I have with other agencies, they don't come
6 into Kotlik and push us around. No one here came, bossed
7 us around. I think if we keep in the way we're going now,
8 strengthening this relationship that's building, it's
9 really good, our relationship with the federal government.
10 It's way more times better than it was 15 years ago when
11 you guys -- or 18 years ago when you first started to step
12 up your activity. And if we keep this -- I think those
13 other tribes will -- it's not like we're mean people, it's
14 that we don't like being -- like Carl Jack said, people
15 coming and telling us what to do, and in some cases they're
16 out even right. If we keep this up.....

17
18 MR. L. WILDE: Point of order, Mr.
19 Chairman. We're completely.....

20
21 MR. BENDER: I'm getting to -- I'm.....

22
23 MR. L. WILDE:off the subject.

24
25 MR. BENDER:getting to point. And if
26 we turn this into a program like we're working on with
27 other federal agencies there there -- if there is a
28 violation, that we have a choice of bringing it into tribal
29 court or sending the case to a state court, like we can do
30 with children now, if we want to keep the kid in the
31 village, we intervene on their behalf, but if the kid's so
32 bad, we don't want him any more, we just don't intervene
33 and he goes to state court. If we can work an arrangement
34 out like that, it will give the tribes more confidence that
35 if some little thing goes wrong, a Trooper's not going to
36 swoop down on him like they did that guy with the ptarmigan
37 a few years ago. You remember that one?

38
39 MR. RIORDEN: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

40
41 MR. BENDER: That doesn't happen generally
42 with the federal government. They don't put people in jail
43 for ten days, you know, they're not interested. If we can
44 work out a program where gradually the authority comes to
45 the tribe, where we have the power to say, yes, we -- this
46 guy's been flying overhead like a few years ago, scaring
47 geese in his plane, we want him in -- take him to state
48 court, but we still have the choice of, no, this guy really
49 needs food, his family's starving, bring it to tribal
50 court, this thing will get even better. Our relationship

00155

1 will strengthen and it won't be an antagonistic
2 relationship, and we'll -- the geese are coming back. This
3 is -- in the over-all picture these few villages that are
4 not switching over to steel shoot, and the few people that
5 are -- who really don't want to change, that will gradually
6 -- of course, we have to build the relationship. If these
7 rules come to by force, they will never work with our
8 people. No one's going to go for it, they're going to go
9 hunt anyhow. But the way we're going, if we can build this
10 further and bring it to the tribal courts where we have
11 that power to make these decisions, I think it will work
12 out. I think we've come a long, long way in the last 18
13 years with the federal government. So if we could get that
14 jurisdiction into our hands, real jurisdiction, where we
15 can say, oh, man, this guy's scaring everyone's geese away,
16 take him to Bethel and fine him \$1,000 or put him in the
17 can. Or we could -- I'm repeating myself here, but I think
18 that would be a very good thing for this, that it will make
19 things, I don't know how, better. It will just become
20 better, and when you're not spending your time in a meeting
21 like here, we have a good meeting. I hear one subject
22 after another, we settle it and we go on. If we keep this
23 up, we're going to go a long way. If it's like when we
24 deal with the state, and they come in here and tell us,
25 well, you can sit here and talk, but we're not going to
26 listen to you, it's not going to work.

27
28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

29
30 MR. BENDER: And we already know that.
31 It's been going on for 20 years. So that's my two cents
32 worth for this.

33
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mr. Bender, I think
35 it's -- if you are going to testify, you could use all
36 that. But we try to follow agenda right now. We would
37 appreciate it if you could wait until you start testifying,
38 and we've got some fisheries coming in, and all that.

39
40 MR. BENDER: Okay

41
42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you.

43
44 MR. RIORDEN: That's about all I had for
45 waterfowl.

46
47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Any more
48 question? Let me ask you, you will or not enforcement on
49 the birds this spring or what -- there's some question.....
50

00156

1 MR. RIORDEN: We'll have.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE:from our young
4 people, and if they're going to enforce or not, or.....

5

6 MR. RIORDEN: We'll have the same level of
7 enforcement we've had pretty much every year for the last
8 seven or eight hours. And pretty much if young people are
9 hunting and they don't shoot emperor geese and they don't
10 use lead shot, then they have nothing to worry about.

11

12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

13

14 MR. RIORDEN: We're not worried about any
15 of the other things at all.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Just to let the
18 audience know, we kind of saved this fishery and -- for the
19 last. We're waiting for those two others. However, we do
20 have on our agenda, new business, and the new business we
21 have Regional Council matters, and also we have new line
22 from Canal to some place down here, and for the last we're
23 going to use resolutions. Use resolutions for the last.
24 But that's information I'm trying to give out to people
25 here. We use new business like. Any more questions to
26 Mike?

27

28 MR. RIORDEN: Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Mike. Yeah.

31

32 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, it's not on
33 the agenda, but it's somewhat for agency, and I'm just
34 going to take the opportunity if it's okay with you,
35 because we have the two coordinating fishery committees,
36 one for the Yukon, one for the Kuskokwim, and I just need
37 to know, since I've been really concentrating on the Yukon,
38 but I try to cover the Kuskokwim, Jerry's been doing most
39 of that coordinating, that you still want the same members
40 from your council on that coordinating fishing committee.
41 Remember, Harry, you and John are on the Yukon, and James
42 and Robert Nick are on the Kuskokwim. And then for Western
43 Interior it's Mickey Stickman and Benedict Jones, and for
44 Eastern Interior it's Gerald Nicolai and then Craig
45 Fleener's the alternate. So those are the six people on
46 the Yukon, John and Harry and Mickey and Benedict and Craig
47 and Gerald, that we contact. Monty calls up, we -- I call
48 them up, to talk about as it goes through in-season,
49 because they're your inputs into the federal manager. So I
50 just need to confirm that you guys are still going to go

00157

1 with those two members, yourself and John for the Yukon,
2 and Robert and James for the Kuskokwim.

3

4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Right now that's as far
5 as I know, those boys, those members of council are still
6 there.

7

8 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay. All right. And then
9 the other thing is, is that we asked at Eastern and
10 Western, and then we had a meeting in fall, to ask how do
11 you feel it went last year? Any improvements on that?
12 Because it became very busy on the Yukon. You can ask
13 Harry and John, it was almost weekly teleconferences with
14 two to three phone calls before and after that. If any of
15 you have any suggestions how to make that better, please
16 let us know, because Monty as the in-season manager for the
17 Yukon leans very heavily on you guys and others, but mainly
18 those six to talk about this looks like this is going to
19 happen, what's your feelings on it. So if you have any
20 ideas how to improve that, let me know. And on the Yukon I
21 think Mike can talk about better how that coordinating
22 group worked, but you had the two, James and Robert.
23 Western Interior had Carl Morgan from Aniak and Ray Collins
24 from McGrath. So we're going to continue to use those
25 people to help us understand what needs to be done, and to
26 keep the three councils on the Yukon informed, and the two
27 on the Kuskokwim informed. So if you have any questions on
28 that, I can -- if you have any suggestions, let me know.
29 We may explore more teleconferences, but we have to see how
30 the season develops. This is more on the Yukon. I haven't
31 had a chance to talk on the Kuskokwim, because on the
32 Yukon, as those that are on the Yukon understand, the
33 teleconference on the Yukon River Fisheries Drainage
34 Association is good to get information in. It is difficult
35 with 40 people on line to talk back and forth. So we may
36 need to work on more back and forth talking to understand.
37 And that's kind of an agency report, you know, just so you
38 understand that Jerry and I and Mike and Monty and others
39 will be calling you throughout the summer as the salmon
40 returns. If they improve, we'll be less talking to you.
41 If they look like they predict, we're going to be talking
42 to you more. So.....

43

44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Vince, I think
45 Yukon Drainage Fishermen Association is going to have a
46 financial problem. Teleconference, I don't know how
47 they're going to handle it. We tried -- Yukon Drainage
48 Fishermen Association tried to get help, funding from RNA,
49 but RNA members, they refused it, because it's not the
50 policy of RNA to give the money to teleconference.

00158

1 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, we'll have to watch
2 that closely, because I know Monty, and I'm sure that the
3 State managers, Tom Vania and now Fred Bue (ph) and others
4 depend very heavily on those teleconferences.

5
6 MR. L. WILDE: But don't you have any
7 funding in.....

8
9 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

10
11 MR. L. WILDE:(indiscernible -
12 simultaneous speech)?

13
14 MR. MATTHEWS: Well,.....

15
16 MR. L. WILDE: Fish and Wildlife or Fish
17 and Game?

18
19 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, I think at this level,
20 I don't know where that's at, but I've got a faint feeling
21 I'm going to find out when I get back at the office,
22 because again I'm more Yukon focused. If YRDFA doesn't
23 meet, then we'll have to duplicate that effort on the
24 federal side. And that can be done, but there's an
25 easiness of doing it and a history of doing it on the
26 other. So I suppose when I get back to the office I'll
27 have to talk around to see what we're going to do on that.

28
29 MR. L. WILDE: Uh-huh.

30
31 MR. MATTHEWS: But the only way it's going
32 to work is we need the input, what's going on with the
33 fishery, how are subsistence needs being met? Are they
34 being met? And then we need the output to say this is
35 what's going to happen, because otherwise it's too long of
36 a river to get all that information out by individuals,
37 calling individuals. That teleconference helps.

38
39 And then the last thing I had was, we
40 talked about it yesterday, we're going to be forming a -- I
41 don't like the term, but it's the only one I could think of
42 now, kind of a conflict resolution forum to deal with the
43 upriver area around Holy Cross, Grayling, Anvik and
44 Shageluk. I'll probably work with Harry on this to see who
45 would like to be part of that group when it's formed to
46 represent the council, as well as other representatives
47 from the lower Yukon, since you do go up there and hunt and
48 fish and et cetera. So I just want to let you know we're
49 going to be trying to set that up here, and it will include
50 representation from your area.

00159

1 MR. L. WILDE: Is that with the moose line
2 or what is this?

3
4 MR. MATTHEWS: It's going to address both
5 moose and fish. And that's a monumental task, because the
6 agencies are set up more by fish and wildlife, so somehow,
7 and it may be myself or others, we're going to have to walk
8 in between those two, because the agencies are more geared
9 up to do planning on fish, and planning on wildlife, and so
10 we're going to try to work something out.

11
12 MR. L. WILDE: Is -- Mr. Chairman? Is
13 there within anybody's budget some capital left for
14 teleconferences that you might be able to -- you know, you
15 could utilize YRDFA pretty easily if you had the money, if
16 you had the finances to do it.

17
18 MR. MATTHEWS: Right.

19
20 MR. L. WILDE: You know, they -- I'm sure
21 Dan and the staff, well, one or two of those people would
22 be more than happy to.....

23
24 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, I think I'm going to
25 carry back this concern on funding back and see. I would
26 guess there's probably negotiations going on, at a
27 different level, and I will share my concerns, and Monty
28 will be here hopefully today. I would appreciate you
29 sharing it to him, because the long meetings I've had with
30 him, it's -- he's heavily dependent on that teleconference,
31 and so please bring it up to him, and we'll see what can be
32 done on it. Right how I don't have any idea on the budget.

33
34 MR. L. WILDE: Well, the Forest Service or
35 somebody, one of those -- somebody should have some surplus
36 money, I know there should be some somewhere.

37
38 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah. Well, like when I
39 used to work for Eastern Interior, there was one council
40 member that saw me struggling answering questions like
41 this, and he came up to me, and he said, Vince, don't worry
42 about it. The federal government has deep pockets, but
43 they've got short arms. So I need to find out if I can get
44 some longer arms to do that, but I think it's clear that if
45 that's -- if we need to do outreach on the Yukon, then we
46 need to find out the best way to do that, and then
47 resources will follow. I know this is not on the agenda,
48 but it's part of an agency report, and I wanted to update
49 the other council members what's going on, that these four
50 members have longer ears now from those long -- they're

00160

1 very long teleconferences, not the Yukon River ones so much
2 -- well, they are, too, but also the Kuskokwim ones, and
3 we're going to try to work real hard on improving that
4 communication. Otherwise we can't do our jobs, and you
5 can't tell us how better to do our jobs and neither of us
6 then can protect the resource. So anyways, I wanted to
7 share that.

8
9 And then I passed out the other resolution
10 which I know will come up under fish, but that one that had
11 the letter on there, that's a resolution that Alex brought
12 to the Eastern and Western Interior, I believe Robert Nick
13 wrote it. I'm not sure of that. And the Eastern and
14 Western Interior adopted it, and now it's before you. This
15 is the one that will deal with subsistence closures and
16 Area M.

17
18 MR. L. WILDE: That's Resolution 01-2001?
19

20 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, and that number may
21 changed, you know, for discussions, because we're having
22 difficulty.....

23
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We're -- Vince, we're
25 going to work on resolutions under new business.

26
27 MR. MATTHEWS: Right. I just wanted to
28 make sure you know that that one was passed out for you to
29 deal with later. And that's all I had.

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you.

32
33 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you. Thanks for the
34 time.

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Next on our
37 agenda is 14, Regional Council annual update, Alex Nick.
38 On your tab it's H, Tab H.

39
40 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Vince,
41 could you help me out on this? One thing that I wanted to
42 tell the council, Regional Council members, is that under
43 14(a), annual report update, I really don't have anything
44 to work from, because in your -- Vince, correct me if I'm
45 wrong on this, in your October meeting I don't remember if
46 there was any -- if there were anything that you wanted to
47 report to the Federal Subsistence Board. In your 1999
48 papers I noticed that you've listed the list of animals and
49 fish that you use in Y-K Delta for subsistence use. I
50 don't know if there's any changes that were made in the

00161

1 last meeting. Vince might remember on that part. Could
2 you help me out on that?

3
4 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah. What I remember on
5 that part, and I didn't bring my notes from your last
6 meeting was that there was discussion about the 1999
7 report. This is the report that you did on topics that you
8 couldn't really deal with with regulations, proposal
9 changes or topics that needed higher attention to the Board
10 that proposals wouldn't allow you to do. My understanding
11 of that is that if there were any additional annual report
12 topics, you were going to provide them to Harry or myself
13 or Alex. So I believe that's where you left it. You're
14 not bound to do an annual report each year, but it is a
15 very important way to inform the Federal Subsistence Board
16 of your concerns.

17
18 For example, Western Interior for two or
19 three annual reports requested over and over and over again
20 for some kind of planning process in the Grayling, Anvik,
21 Shageluk and Holy Cross area. Now that's coming to fruit.

22
23 Another example in Western Interior was
24 they requested additional law enforcement efforts in that
25 same area. The Board didn't grant it, but agencies used
26 that as saying, please fund us for more personnel and
27 flying time to do that, and that did it.

28
29 Western and Eastern Interior, the book that
30 Harry's looking at now, is a result of -- the pictures in
31 it, the art work is the result of an annual report topic
32 and letter that was started by Mr. Fleener saying we need
33 to have more art work from artists throughout the state,
34 and we need to have some way of getting those artists and
35 having some kind of recognition or contest with it. That
36 was from an annual report, right? I believe we put it in
37 the annual report. I know I wrote a lot of letters on it.
38 And so the annual report is that forum to do it.

39
40 And I was trying to scrounge around a copy
41 of Title VIII of ANILCA, but off the top of my head, the
42 annual report is to look at subsistence uses, subsistence
43 needs, to address management plans, review plans, and to
44 come up with management strategies. When people write
45 these statutes, the words have very important meanings.
46 They just don't put those things in there. They put those
47 in there, and my interpretation is to allow you to have a
48 mechanism for subsistence users to talk directly to the
49 Secretary of Interior. What has happened is the Secretary
50 of Interior's delegated his authority to the Federal

00162

1 Subsistence Board. But the point of it is, is that that
2 was put in there because there was concern that subsistence
3 might not have a voice, so you have that option for an
4 annual report. You can defer to next -- I'm losing it now.
5 Next -- your fall meeting to look at a new report to do
6 that, and you may want to in light of the fishing season or
7 whatever. I don't think there's one for 2000 ready.

8
9 MR. L. WILDE: Vince?

10
11 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

12
13 MR. L. WILDE: Again I think there's
14 concern in our areas that we haven't addressed, that we
15 might be able to write letters onto the coordinator, we as
16 members of the advisory group, if we have any concerns just
17 to write it in a letter form to him and he can compile it
18 into an annual report,.....

19
20 MR. MATTHEWS: Right.

21
22 MR. L. WILDE:if that would be --
23 that would work?

24
25 MR. NICK: Yeah.

26
27 MR. MATTHEWS: And if you could do that and
28 then give him some kind of date, the process, but we can
29 adapt that. I assume we can adapt it a little bit. The
30 process is the annual reports are due pretty soon here, and
31 then the Board takes them up over summer, and then they
32 respond to you in fall. But I think in this case we can
33 start that process of doing it and then see where that will
34 fall out. That's pretty much it on annual reports. I'm an
35 advocate for them, because it's a forum to get out of
36 proposals. I've been in this business going on 11, 12
37 years, and I get -- I get tired of a proposal moving
38 something a little inch this way, and then the next cycle
39 someone submits a proposal and they go half an inch back
40 this way, and we keep doing this, where maybe if we got
41 some kind of open forum, we can address the whole issue.
42 Well, the annual report is one forum to address with issues
43 that can't be moved by a little bit of this way and a
44 little bit of that way. Anyway, enough on my soapbox and
45 annual reports, but I think you're set up to adjust that
46 for your 2000 or 2001, whatever you end up calling it,
47 report.

48
49 MR. NICK: Any questions? My
50 recommendation, I don't know if it would be appropriate

00163

1 recommendation, Vince, again you could help me out, you
2 have about 11, 12 years ahead experience than I do on this
3 business, in this business, but my recom -- my personal
4 recommendations as -- my recommendation as council
5 coordinator would be to take some kind of formal action to
6 continue using your existing lists until such time that we
7 come up with a new list for your new annual report.

8
9 MR. L. WILDE: Well, it doesn't hurt to add
10 on.

11
12 MR. NICK: Yeah.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: Add on I say if concerns
15 come.

16
17 MR. MATTHEWS: I think that might be the
18 best way to go would be he can review the 1999 report and
19 see if any of those need to be resubmitted to the Board,
20 and then you guys submit comments -- or not comments,
21 concerns to him, and then at your fall meeting maybe blend
22 those all together, and then get back onto the cycle of, if
23 you desire to have annual reports, or fall submitting
24 topics, maybe even write-ups on it, and then your
25 coordinator puts that together and then at your meeting
26 now, the spring meeting here, then you approve it, the
27 wording, change the wording, whatever, but you finally
28 approve it and then that's submitted. And I think we can
29 work it out. Alex and I can meet a couple of times over
30 annual reports, and maybe, you know, when Harry or whoever
31 attends the joint chairs meeting, it be advisable to take
32 to the other chairs on what they're doing with annual
33 reports.

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more questions to
36 Vince?

37
38 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Next on our agenda is
41 (b) Regional Council nomination process.

42
43 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, we have a panel
44 for -- a panel who are going to be interviewing the council
45 applicants, and we have one of the people who was appointed
46 to be panel member in the selection process -- or rather,
47 I'm sorry, two people here, and they can help -- Jerry
48 could help me out in this. They're just finally beginning
49 to interview the council applications for the vacant seats.
50 And we won't be able to give you a report or update of any

00164

1 of the council members as to who might be selected, who is
2 recommended, until maybe the selection process is over. It
3 will probably take at least a month or two to find out
4 exactly where we stand on that.

5

6 MS. GREGORY: Mr Chairman, how many
7 applicants do we have?

8

9 MR. NICK: We have, correct me if I'm
10 wrong, Jerry, we have about 16 applicants from Y-K Delta.
11 And it's my understanding that maybe -- there's been only
12 one or two interviews, because we -- they just finally
13 started to interview council members last week I believe,
14 Jerry? Last week? Late last week. And Jerry could give a
15 little report on that.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Jerry.

18

19 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I don't have
20 much to add. I think Alex did a good job giving you an
21 overview. This is the annual process that we go through.
22 There's about a third of the council seats that come open
23 each year. And this year there's four seats that are open
24 on your council. Fritz George's seat, Willard Church and
25 Robert Nick all three members, and they -- all three of
26 those seats are up. Robert Nick is the only council member
27 who has reapplied. Fritz and Willard did not reapply, so
28 those will be new members. And then we also have Alvin's
29 seat as an alternate is open this year, and I believe Alvin
30 did not reapply as well. So that -- he's the alternate for
31 the Yukon side. Of course, you have an alternate for the
32 Kuskokwim and an alternate for the Yukon. So that's about
33 all I have to add, unless you have any questions.

34

35 MR. L. WILDE: It's too late now to apply
36 for that, so that's.....

37

38 MR. BERG: Yes, that closed -- that
39 application period closed the end of February.

40

41 MR. NICK: 23rd.

42

43 MR. BERG: 23rd.

44

45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any question to Jerry?

46

47 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Hanson?

50

00165

1 MR. HANSON: When you guys send out
2 applications for nominations, do you send those to
3 individuals, or they go to some tribal organizations or
4 councils or how does it work?

5
6 MR. BERG: Yeah, actually all of the above.

7
8 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I got several of them
9 as a council member to give to people who might be
10 interested.

11
12 MR. HANSON: Because I never got -- I never
13 -- they never sent me no nomination form.

14
15 MR. BERG: We should -- yeah, we should
16 send one out. I thought that the council members did get
17 one, but I'll go back and check and make sure.

18
19 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I did get one from
20 Anchorage. Not from you guys, but.....

21
22 MR. BERG: We have a list of about almost
23 3,000 people that we send applications out to, and that
24 lists includes native organizations, native councils,
25 individuals, anybody who wants to receive an application,
26 we send one out. We'll fax one out. If anybody calls in
27 and requests an applications, we do everything we can to
28 encourage as many people to apply as possible.

29
30 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I didn't hear what
31 (Indiscernible, outside machinery) so that shows you that
32 some of the city people are (indiscernible) trying to heat.

33
34 MR. BERG: Yeah, we certainly encourage --
35 you know, we'll do, you know, whatever -- if people request
36 an application, we'll send one out. I know Alex sent out
37 some notices around the region, and we try to get the word
38 out as best we can every year, that the application period
39 is open, and we do all we can. And if you have other ideas
40 of people to get on the mailing list, we'll add them onto
41 the list. We try to get -- we try to keep the list as up
42 to date as possible, and we'll add anybody to it that you'd
43 like.

44
45 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, for your
46 information, we received applications as early as the
47 middle to late December, so we know that the word got out.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

50

00166

1 MR. NICK: Even before I got on board.

2

3 MR. BERG: We also put it on the radio, on
4 the radio statewide. It's usually on the nightly news on
5 public radio in February for four or five different times
6 we put it on the radio.

7

8 MS. GREGORY: Maybe, Mr. Chairman, next
9 time around you can put it in the newspapers, because
10 people read.

11

12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think they did.

13

14 MR. BERG: Yeah.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

17

18 MR. BERG: We put it in the Tundra Drums.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I saw it in the Tundra
21 Drums.

22

23 MS. GREGORY: The Delta Discovery is a
24 popular one right now as far as Yup'iks are concerned.

25

26 MR. BERG: Oh, yeah. I'm not sure if we've
27 got that one or not. The Delta Discovery. I'll make sure
28 and add that to our list.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more on
31 nominations? If there's not, we'll go to the next one, (c)
32 regional council charter update.

33

34 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, in your tab H
35 there's a copy of your charter. There's only one minor
36 confusion I have, maybe Don Rivard and Jerry Berg and Vince
37 can help me out on this. The name of the council appears
38 more than once different. On one part of your -- the name,
39 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory
40 Council, that name appears different in several documents
41 we got. I use what I find in my office in Bethel. It's
42 Yukon-Kuskokwim Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory
43 Council is what I find, and I use that a lot in my
44 documents, you know, like notices. And so what we probably
45 might need to do is to once and for all come up with one
46 name, so that, you know, everybody will recognize who you
47 are and the charter was signed by.....

48

49 MS. GREGORY: Interior.

50

1 MR. NICK:Secretary of Interior
2 Babbitt on September 26th, 2000. And it contains your
3 responsibilities as council, your duties and
4 responsibilities, and who you're responsible to report to.
5 And I think it's important to note that each and every
6 council member, including myself and staff, know what your
7 duties are. And we just talked about annual report, and
8 under four it tells us, you know, what council should do in
9 order to come up with an annual report to the Secretary.

10
11 And other things that are important to note
12 in your charter is that, you know, it says -- in your
13 charter it says you should meet at least twice a year.
14 That does not mean that you have to meet only two times a
15 year. If you feel that you have important things to cover,
16 you know, like your council chair, council members, your
17 council chair, or Federal Subsistence Board chair may call
18 a meeting to deal with the business.

19
20 And other important thing to note is your
21 membership. Your vacancies, because, you know, those of us
22 like myself and I'm sure that Vince and Jerry and Don ran
23 into that during their time, you know, working as a
24 coordinator. I think we might run into a problem with
25 vacancies maybe, because if you -- my personal experience
26 is that, you know, we -- I've seen at least one member who
27 is not interested in attending your meetings, and that's
28 something that, you know, the council seriously need to
29 consider and then put something in black and white so that
30 we would know how to deal with that. I don't know if I'm
31 stating this -- I don't know if this is appropriate time to
32 state this, but, you know, as your coordinator and as your
33 staff, we need something to work with. We need something
34 to back us up if we need to recommend maybe someone who's
35 appointed as a council member is not doing what they're
36 supposed to be doing. Lester.

37
38 MR. L. WILDE: You know, we've had people
39 appointed to this council, and it might help if we were
40 able to see those names that are applied, you know, there's
41 a lot of those people out there that we know.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

44
45 MR. L. WILDE: And we know who's interested
46 in subsistence and I think when you start, the nomination
47 process to go to this group first.....

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Yes.

00168

1 MR. L. WILDE:so we can weed out some
2 of that -- some of those people that we know are not
3 interested, but they're -- they've -- there's an altogether
4 different conception of what the subsistence advisory
5 council is, you know. We're primarily all volunteers,
6 we're not paid, and people find that, and they lose
7 interest, and I think we should be able to -- if we saw who
8 was there, we'd have an idea of -- I know the people that
9 are around me, so we might be able to put some input on
10 that, if we're able to see the list also.

11
12 MR. NICK: I know that pursuant to federal
13 regulations that applies to ANILCA, we have to abide by
14 that. It's in your charter here, the -- what regulations
15 that we need to follow, but I haven't seen those
16 regulations as your coordinator yet. So not only me, but
17 the council members who are appointed should be familiar
18 with what kind of regulations they need to comply with, you
19 know, in -- with respect to carrying out the business as
20 advisory council. I know sometimes -- I'll be truthful
21 with you. Sometimes I get into trouble for saying some
22 things, but as your coordinator, and in order for you to be
23 effective council, we need to have something in writing
24 that will help us make decisions outside of your council
25 meetings. So that we will be able to recommend to you what
26 needs to be done.

27
28 I'll just mention only one more thing, and
29 then I'll turn this over to Vince. He's got a lot of
30 experience in this. Under removal of members, it says
31 there if someone comes -- rather misses two consecutive
32 meetings, that person will be removed, but then it does not
33 say -- this does not tell me whether or not if that person
34 needs to have excuse. Like, for example, this is my first
35 time with meeting with you right now, but I did not hear
36 during the beginning of the meeting whether or not if those
37 who are absent from this meeting are excused or not
38 excused. It's something that we need to deal with.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

41
42 MR. NICK: I realize that there's some
43 things that, you know, we have to have or comply with, but
44 I would rather have something to work with, you know, if
45 I'm going to be your effective coordinator.

46
47 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I have two
48 questions.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

00169

1 MS. GREGORY: You mentioned about having
2 more than two meetings a year, and I know we're funded for
3 two meetings a year. If the chair should call a special
4 meeting, are we funded to have a meeting?

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Vince, before you
7 go, I mean, before you.....

8
9 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

10
11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

12
13 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay. We've dealt with this
14 with Eastern Interior and Western Interior. Basically it's
15 a case-by-case basis, meaning if you want to have a third
16 meeting and you have strong justifications, we'll push that
17 forward. I can't say it will be funded, but if it's a very
18 strong case, it most -- it may be funded. So that's the
19 process to set up an additional meeting. It's a case-by-
20 case basis. I'm trying to think if other regions have had
21 additional meetings, but I'm drawing a blank here. I think
22 one other region did. But anyways that's the way it is.
23 If there's a real strong reason to meet, then the funding
24 will be probably found. But we have to go case-by-case.

25
26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. We.....

27
28 MS. GREGORY: I.....

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Mary.

31
32 MS. GREGORY: My other question is
33 regarding removal of members. I know Mr. -- our
34 representative from the Nelson Island has not come to
35 several meetings, and one of them right now, he's in the
36 hospital, but we need to deal with that, and we need to not
37 just take them off, we need to talk to them first, and see
38 if they're really interested, not just chop them off. I
39 think we need to -- how do we amend our charter, or do we
40 -- do you have a process for that?

41
42 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, it is -- there is
43 somewhat of a process there. Other councils have put in
44 the wording two unexcused absences. That would allow you
45 and the councils that have it in there to develop bylaws to
46 define what is unexcused. So that answers part of your
47 question.

48
49 What is the process for removing a member?
50 The process is for the council to inform the member, if

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1 they so desire to use that method, and I think that would
2 be the best method to use, and then they would inform the
3 Board of their concerns. The Board then would -- could
4 recommend removal, and then it's the secretary that
5 actually does the removal. Now, that sounds pretty.....

6
7 MS. GREGORY: The Secretary of Interior?

8
9 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes. That sounds really
10 bureaucratic. The way it's worked in other regions is the
11 way Mary has really said it, is the Council then talks
12 amongst themselves. They can go into an executive session
13 on it, talk about if the individual's there, or what to do
14 with that individual. And then they work with it
15 internally. That's how we've done it in Eastern Interior,
16 Western Interior, and I believe North Slope and Northwest
17 has done that.

18
19 Now, the council didn't say to that
20 individual, we're removing you. You don't have that
21 authority, nor I don't think you would want to do that.
22 What they did is they highly suggested that that person
23 resign. And most of them then understand that they weren't
24 meeting the needs of their area, and then resigned. Or
25 didn't reapply.

26
27 But Western Interior and Eastern I believe,
28 and you'd have to talk to Donald about that, are toying
29 with the idea of developing bylaws that define unexcused
30 absences, because not often, but some of the members come
31 to the meeting, and this is across the state, and they're
32 unable to function at the meetings. So that's where the
33 bylaws would allow the council to say, when you come to the
34 meeting, what are you supposed to do? And if you don't do
35 that, then we consider that an unexcused absence, so it's
36 -- that's one aspect. And I don't remember, maybe others
37 here know. I think Southeast was looking at bylaws, too,
38 to address performance.

39
40 So anyways, I think I answered all of
41 Mary's questions, but the easiest on all is for the council
42 to work with their own members and to talk to each other to
43 say, like if Jerry was a member, I'd call Jerry up and say,
44 boy, we really missed you. We really needed your input on
45 this thing and that, and encourage them to involve. And
46 then if Jerry says, well, I'm too busy with this, too busy
47 with that, or don't feel I can do it, then maybe suggest,
48 well, maybe it would be a time for you to resign. It makes
49 it a lot easier if you work within yourself.

50

00171

1 And I'll answer the question that Alex
2 brought up. You have a mechanism to address that if one of
3 your members resigns, you have what are called alternates
4 that have been appointed by the Secretary to fill in and I
5 think Jerry can explain that better, but you have that
6 mechanism in your process that if someone resigns, there
7 are alternates that then would fill in. So that gets to
8 Alex's thing.

9
10 And then the last thing on the charter,
11 those points that Alex brought up are timely, but the next
12 time the charters are up for review is what, 2002? And the
13 name thing you can address, and some of the other items, so
14 that might be something to think about over the next couple
15 of meetings, what else in your charter, and I don't have
16 the list of what can change in the charter, but to think
17 about those items, of maybe unexcused or addressing the
18 official designation part. But that will be done in 2002.

19
20 And then one last thing, which I'm not sure
21 if I -- I think I gave Alex this, but we gave him so much
22 stuff, that it may have gotten lost in that. There -- the
23 Regional Council Operations Manual is very, very helpful.
24 That's what I use, and I think Donald does, to train new
25 members, to orient them to what's going on. That would
26 answer all your questions in it. It's in a question/answer
27 format.

28
29 Lastly, Western Interior and my memory's
30 fading on me on Eastern Interior, has requested or actually
31 demanded that at every meeting a copy of Title VIII be in
32 their books or be available, and a full title of ANILCA be
33 available. So that may be something you want to
34 incorporate in your book on doing that as -- because that's
35 what you're really charged to do, that's your orders per
36 se. So we can accommodate that by providing copies at
37 every meeting or whatever you want to do on that. It will
38 be helpful when we address topics later today. There will
39 be copies of ANILCA available on discussion that may
40 address part of ANILCA, so we'll be charged on it.

41
42 The last thing on that is the best thing
43 for a council to do is just to get their thoughts and ideas
44 what they want done down and approved, and then we can tell
45 you either right then or later it doesn't apply to you or
46 whatever. But the main thing is, what you want to do, tell
47 us what you would like done, and then we can try to figure
48 out how to do it. And if we can't do it through
49 jurisdictions or whatever reasons, then we'll talk to each
50 other and explain that. So -- because I've given you a

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1 whole bunch of bureaucratic mumbo-jumbo here. The main
2 thing is what do you need to do? You're here as a forum to
3 discuss subsistence concerns and uses and needs, and if
4 that's what needs to be addressed, then get it down, and
5 then as staff we'll work with you to find out how we can
6 get solutions to that if we have the ability to do that.
7 And that's it. Jerry may have more, because he's dealt
8 with charters.

9
10 MR. BERG: I think you've covered
11 everything.

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Questions to Vince?

14
15 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
16 Yeah, Vince, will it be hard for the next council meeting,
17 will it be hard to get the operating manual for the
18 councils, along with the -- in a booklet like this?

19
20 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we can
21 get those. I think we've got boxes of them in the office.
22 And we can -- I don't think we'll put them in this same
23 book, but they're in the same type of design, and we'll get
24 copies, so, Alex, we'll have to make sure we get copies of
25 those, and then staff need to bring them with, because that
26 does have Title VIII in it, and it does have all the other
27 materials in it. And if you guys start using it, because
28 Jerry.....

29
30 MR. BERG: They were made -- they.....

31
32 MR. MATTHEWS: They were given copies?

33
34 MR. BERG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

35
36 MR. L. WILDE: Yep, I got mine in the mail.

37
38 MR. MATTHEWS: But if we can have them.....

39
40 MR. BERG: At least you get more.

41
42 MR. MATTHEWS:available.....

43
44 MR. BERG: Yeah.

45
46 MR. MATTHEWS:if you find out that
47 they don't work, then we need to improve them, so that we
48 would be honored if you started using them more, to find
49 out that there needs to be changes or additions or
50 whatever. But we can get those. They were handed out

00173

1 before, and I usually carry one to the meeting, but this
2 time I lightened my load, but anyway we can get those to
3 you.

4
5 MR. BERG: They're about the same size.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more.....

8
9 MR. BERG:as this book with the grey
10 cover.

11
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more on charter?

13
14 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, I did review the
15 Council Operating Manual, and at one point or another I had
16 to go through one subject more than once, because, you
17 know, I needed to understand that. But one thing that if I
18 did not misunderstand the operating manual, each and every
19 council member who's appointed to sit in the council,
20 advisory council, correct me if I'm wrong, Vince or Jerry,
21 the -- I don't know, maybe I misunderstood it, but it
22 sounds like they're supposed to have some kind of training
23 to be familiar with that operating manual is how I
24 understood that. And that's why -- maybe that's one of the
25 reasons why that I brought some of the things that comes up
26 in your charter, because maybe, I might be a little off
27 here, but, you know, some -- it seems like, you know, some
28 of these things don't kind of match with what we're
29 supposed to be operating on.

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Vince?

32
33 MR. MATTHEWS: And Jerry can help, and Mr.
34 Fleener can help on his one. Training is to be provided
35 for new members as they come on board. We've done it
36 various ways. Some of the councils, what they do is if say
37 Mike's a new member, they have them come in a half a day
38 early or a day early, and then the coordinator and maybe
39 someone else meets with them. They use the manual or they
40 use other tools to train the individual, and then that's
41 the one method.

42
43 The method I use is a little bit different,
44 because I'm based out of Fairbanks. I try to get the new
45 members into Fairbanks and, what, we spent a day, right,
46 training? And the reason I bring Fleener up, because he
47 had some concerns about that training, of how to improve
48 it, but usually it's a day, and we go through the
49 legislative history, the requirements of statute, all this
50 fun stuff. It sounds boring, but I try to make it

00174

1 exciting. But anyways we try to give you a foundation of
2 why you're here and what you're supposed to do. The second
3 phase of the training is since most of the managers for
4 Eastern and Western Interior are housed in Fairbanks, we
5 have meetings with the managers. So we would take the new
6 member over to Dave Mills, who's the superintendent for
7 Gates of the Arctic and for Yukon Charlie, and we spent a
8 half hour there just talking. Then we went to Ted Hugher
9 and, let's see, the new manager is Bob Schultz, and Richard
10 Voss, who are managers for Arctic Refuge, Knute, and Yukon
11 Flats, and sit and talk. Just to get to know each other
12 and exchange ideas and thoughts. So we do a tour of
13 different places and meet different people. That's how the
14 training, I've done it.

15
16 Obviously it requires additional travel by
17 the council members, and it takes up a whole another day,
18 so that's how training to my knowledge has been, and Jerry
19 might know better on other regions, but that's how I
20 understand the training has been. So new members are to be
21 trained. Now, older members, if you want training or need
22 training, that can be incorporated in, and maybe we can
23 work that out. I've tried in the past to do that, to have
24 the chair available for training, but all the chairs that I
25 know of, they're so busy with everything else, that to get
26 them in for a day to do training has been hard. So maybe
27 Mr Fleener or.....

28
29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mr. Fleener, go ahead.

30
31 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Craig
32 Fleener, Fort Yukon. Something we tried to bring in in
33 Eastern Interior was also that council members that had
34 been on the council for a while participate in the
35 training, because instead of Vince and all the federal
36 people explaining all the bureaucratic stuff to new council
37 members who may have never been involved, we try to have
38 people who are living in the villages and who have served
39 on the councils to also work with them. And I think it
40 works a lot better, because then you've got, you know,
41 people who are sort of more understanding of each other,
42 and understanding of each other's ways explaining the whole
43 process. And he's going to explain things from a legal
44 sort of perspective, how you work through ANILCA, and how
45 the laws affect you, and the agency people are going to
46 tell you what -- how they think you should function, and
47 then the way we wanted it to happen is that people from the
48 villages explain to you, you know, what they think the
49 system should be like, and how they think the regional
50 councils are supposed to operate. So that's something else

00175

1 that I would encourage you guys to do, if you have time.
2 Like Vince said, it's hard to get people in sometimes, but
3 I think that's the best way to do a training. Thank you,
4 Mr. Chair.

5
6 MR. MATTHEWS: So I think you need to let
7 your coordinator know how you want training to be done, and
8 then he would structure it, and then go to the people with
9 the longer arms to get some of that money for training. But
10 the way we did it with Eastern and Western Interior was
11 approved, and the way I justified it is that there was
12 usually two or three new members, because I was covering
13 two regions, so we were up to like three or four new
14 members being trained, so it was justifiable to bring them
15 in. And there was support from all the agencies, because
16 they wanted to meet -- they want to meet you one-on-one.
17 Mike and others -- I mean, that's very productive those
18 meetings, meeting one-on-one, and we also did go to the
19 State, I should say that on the record. We set up meetings
20 with the state biologists and managers in Fairbanks, and
21 these are very productive meetings, because they get to
22 know each other personally, but they also can say whether
23 they stand on different issues, and they exchange phone
24 numbers and et cetera, so I was amazed how productive those
25 were, and gotten calls back from refuge managers and park
26 superintendents, because in our area we deal with Parks and
27 BLM biologists, Bureau of Land Management biologists, now
28 much they appreciated meeting the people, new members
29 outside of, you know, a formal meeting like this. Anyway.

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more question on
32 charter?

33
34 MR. SAVAGE: Mr. Chairman, yeah, Vince,
35 just thinking a little bit here. I'm just going to bring
36 it up, just let you think about it. You know, we've got
37 all these new members. In each region, how many new
38 members do you get per year? About four or five of them?

39
40 MR. MATTHEWS: No, the way Alex laid it
41 out, and I'm thinking Jerry did, too, you have what,
42 there's four seats up?

43
44 MR. SAVAGE: No, I mean in each -- I mean
45 each region, like down here.....

46
47 MR. MATTHEWS: Oh, in each region?

48
49 MR. SAVAGE:what -- yeah, each
50 region, how many new members you guys get?

00176

1 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, I don't have the data
2 here. The reason I'm hesitating here is when the seats
3 come up, it doesn't mean they always get new people, and we
4 went through an extensive analysis of the turn over of
5 incumbents, and I don't that with us, and I don't know.....
6

7 MR. SAVAGE: Just approximately guess, like
8 maybe five, six of them?
9

10 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, Jerry might know
11 better on that. In Western Interior, we've not had that
12 much turn over. Eastern Interior, there's been some turn
13 over, and that's not reflective of people's performance, so
14 let me get that clear on the record. It's because these
15 regions are huge, that we had an area where there wasn't
16 representation, so we needed to get representation there,
17 and the person was qualified, so in another area we had
18 multiple representation. That incumbent may not have been
19 reappointed. So it's not, you know, that we dump
20 incumbents, just, you know, because they're not performing.
21 A lot of it has to do with geographic, cultural diversity,
22 user diversity, and we're also looking at gender diversity.
23 You have a woman on your council. Some of the councils do
24 not have any women on them, so we're looking at that, but
25 maybe Jerry can tell -- give you a better idea of how many
26 new seats come up across the state.
27

28 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I've got one
29 comment. You know, some of us -- I've been on this council
30 for going on five years now, and at the time that I was
31 selected, I was supposed to have gone to a training, but
32 I've never gone to a training. I think that goes -- that
33 might hold true to a better percentage of this group than
34 you realize.....
35

36 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, maybe.....
37

38 MR. L. WILDE:that we haven't
39 actually gone through the training. They've always didn't
40 have the money, or it's at the end of the budget year or
41 something.
42

43 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, maybe if you desire
44 that, then we need to.....
45

46 MR. BERG: Put it in the annual report.
47

48 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah. Well, put it in the
49 annual report would be one, and then attempted -- attempt
50 to do a training. That's up to you to decide, and then

00177

1 we'll run it through.

2

3 MR. SAVAGE: Well, come back to the reason
4 I was going to ask you a question is, you know, you get so
5 many new members in, and that needs training, well, why
6 wouldn't you get them all up to, I guess, Fairbanks is the
7 main office, right, the main.....

8

9 MS. GREGORY: No.

10

11 MR. SAVAGE:the main area for the
12 state? Which is area is the whole, you know, where's the
13 biggest office I guess.

14

15 MR. BERG: Anchorage.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: Washington, D.C.

18

19 MR. MATTHEWS: Anchorage. Anchorage is
20 our.....

21

22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible)

23

24 MR. MATTHEWS: Anchorage is our
25 headquarters, and then satellites are in Fairbanks, Bethel,
26 Kotzebue, and Juneau.

27

28 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, and each.....

29

30 MR. SAVAGE: Well, it would be pretty nice
31 to get all the new members in for training, and, you know,
32 once a year during the -- when their seats are up, or
33 whoever you guys are collecting (ph). It would be nice to
34 have the training in Anchorage with the new members, and
35 getting them caught up.

36

37 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mike, we did discuss that
38 at one time, and it -- each region is fairly different, and
39 so we thought it would probably be better for each region
40 to have their own specific training for their regional
41 council, and maybe bring some of the old -- you know, the
42 more experienced council members in, like Craig was talking
43 about, and, you know, certainly if there -- like Lester's
44 been on the council for four or five years, and hasn't had
45 training, you know, you're one of the more experienced
46 members now, but if you still feel like you need training,
47 you know, I think by all means that you can make that
48 request. That's a legitimate request, and we.....

49

50 MR. L. WILDE: It sure would have made the

00178

1 job a lot easier if we'd had some training. You know, we
2 come in cold turkey, and we've got to learn everything.

3

4 MR. BERG: We could certainly add a day to
5 -- like before your next meeting and have some training for
6 council members, if that's what you'd like to do. That's
7 certainly a reasonable request. I don't think that would
8 be a problem.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I think we're
11 going to break, because they're waiting for us to break.
12 We're going to have 20 minutes break before next meeting.
13 They want to fix this, because it's too cold in here.
14 Okay. Twenty minutes break.

15

16 (Off record)

17

18 (On record)

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yesterday when we
21 start, we had the open for the last new business items, we
22 do right now have four, and this on 14, we add one, (a),
23 (b), (c), (d), customary trade. Carl Jack.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, (In Yup'ik)
26 delta or the federal subsistence.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

29

30 MS. GREGORY: And we need to take care of
31 that.

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Okay. Yeah.
34 (In Yup'ik). Carl Jack. (In Yup'ik). Respond to Mary's
35 question?

36

37 MR. NICK: Okay, Mr. Chairman.

38

39 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) But in our (In
40 Yup'ik). It's called federal. So we need make up our
41 minds which way we're going to call ourselves.

42

43 MR. NICK: Okay. Mary wanted to bring up
44 the subject of the Regional Advisory Council's title. In
45 the records that I find in Bethel, it's Yukon-Kuskokwim
46 Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, but in the
47 other records it's Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory
48 Council, I think that's how it is. There's several
49 names.....

50

00179

1 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

2

3 MR. NICK:that came up in our
4 records, and Mary wants to take care of that before my
5 annual -- our annual report is -- before we leave that
6 rather. You might want to answer -- respond to that.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Vince.

9

10 MR. NICK: Vince?

11

12 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, the time to do that
13 would be when the charter is up for renewal, and that is in
14 2002. So.....

15

16 MR. NICK: Okay.

17

18 MS. GREGORY: So under our charter we're a
19 Delta.

20

21 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

22

23 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

24

25 MR. NICK: And the word that I believe you
26 want to add is federal, and I believe we're already covered
27 in on that, but the time to review your charter will be I
28 think the next meeting or the meeting after that, a year
29 from now.

30

31 MS. GREGORY: It says 2002 it's up for
32 review.

33

34 MR. MATTHEWS: Correct. So I think next
35 fall you would start talking about it, and then next
36 spring, a year from now is when you would actually approve
37 your charter.

38

39 MR. L. WILDE: Is the title on the charter
40 correct as written in this book?

41

42 MR. MATTHEWS: Which book is -- oh, the one
43 that shows.....

44

45 MR. L. WILDE: Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
46 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, is that even title
47 now?

48

49 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, I believe that is the
50 title, and that's the title. The federal part of it

00180

1 is.....

2
3 MR. BERG: Automatic.

4
5 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, it's automatic, but I
6 know what you guys are getting at, so -- but right now the
7 time to make that change is coming.

8
9 MS. GREGORY: Okay. Mr. Chairman?

10
11 MR. MATTHEWS: And so he would note it.

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary?

14
15 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. I think if we change
16 it to like federal it would be better, because if there is
17 somebody who didn't know which committee we are in, and he
18 thought we were from the state.....

19
20 MR. MATTHEWS: Right.

21
22 MS. GREGORY:or where, and I think
23 that the word federal will spell it out more.

24
25 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, in the booklets
26 that the regional council use during their meetings, it
27 does not show exactly the same. That's why I brought it
28 up, and in the record, some of our records it does not show
29 exactly the same title, I mean the title for the regional
30 council, so it needs to be corrected I believe.

31
32 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, maybe the best way
33 right now is to go ahead and take that action, and then
34 Alex will work it through the system and get it addressed,
35 what title you want on your charter.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

38
39 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Charles has told me it
40 used to be federal before everything else came about.

41
42 MR. MATTHEWS: You're federal, yes.
43 so.....

44
45 MR. L. WILDE: Well, the -- I think the
46 title that we usually use is this title, what's on
47 this.....

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

50

00181

1 MR. L. WILDE:book right now. Yukon-
2 Kuskokwim Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
3 that's what we -- that's what.....
4

5 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, because it looks
6 like this one appears a little more than the Yukon Del --
7 Kuskokwim Delta, I put this one, you know, put this one on
8 your booklet, and I suggested that when we sent it off to
9 your printers.
10

11 MR. L. WILDE: That's what came out of the
12 first one that I ever went to, and that's how it was
13 advertised, as Yukon-Kuskokwim Federal Subsistence Regional
14 Advisory Council.
15

16 MR. NICK: Yeah, but as you could see in
17 your charter, it does not match this. In your charter it
18 says Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta.
19

20 MS. GREGORY: So what's the proper
21 procedure to.....
22

23 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, right now, I think by
24 consensus you would like the title to be the Yukon-
25 Kuskokwim Delta Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory
26 Council. If that's the wishes of the Council by consent,
27 Alex will go forward.
28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think, Vince, if we
30 go through a voting procedure, it would be better.
31

32 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.
33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If someone make a
35 motion to.....
36

37 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
38 move that the title be Yukon-Kuskokwim Federal Subsistence
39 Regional Advisory Council like it's on the book.
40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's any second
42 to the motion?
43

44 MR. CHARLES: I second the motion, Mr.
45 Chairman.
46

47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by James.
48 Discussion?
49

50 MR. HANSON: Question.

00182

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question's been called
2 for. All who favor say aye.

3
4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed, same sign?

7
8 (No opposing votes.)

9
10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. Okay.

11 (In Yup'ik)

12
13 MS. GREGORY: That's all I have.

14
15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more on.....

16
17 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman?

18
19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

20
21 MR. NICK: That's all I have on this, if
22 Vince or Jerry has any more to add?

23
24 MR. BERG: Maybe just one note of
25 clarification, that the -- since the Secretary only signs
26 your charter every two years, the actual effect of this
27 won't take place until September of 2002.

28
29 MS. GREGORY: But we can use it.....

30
31 MR. BERG: But we can use it.

32
33 MS. GREGORY:for now.

34
35 MR. BERG: Yeah.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Carl Jack.

38
39 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman, members, my name
40 is Carl Jack, native liaison, Federal Subsistence Board.
41 This is for your information. Before I get into the
42 historical note on this, I just wanted to let you know that
43 a task force made up of the staff from OSM, and members of
44 the Regional Advisory Councils will be addressing the need
45 to develop or refine the regulations for customary trade of
46 subsistence harvested fish and wildlife resources within
47 the next few months. I believe your representative on this
48 task force is Mr. Robert Nick. So I -- he will be
49 representing this Regional Council on that task force.

50

1 Now, the customary trade is different from
2 barter. Barter is just the trading of subsistence food for
3 another subsistence food. The customary trade on the other
4 hand is -- let me use an example. If a person goes out to
5 fish, and on his return another person might give that
6 person some little bit of cash to take care of his gas, so
7 to my understanding, that's what customary trade involves.
8 Now, there are current regulations, and I don't have the
9 exact language of the regulations on customary trade. It's
10 in the books right now. And within the past year a task
11 force was formed or was in the process of being formed, and
12 when I started working in December, there were strong
13 expressions from the Regional Advisory Council that they
14 would like to be involved in that task force. During the
15 last meeting of the Federal Subsistence Board, the request
16 from the Regional Advisory Councils was heard by the Board,
17 and the Board had acted on that, adding members of the
18 Regional Advisory Councils, not all, but I believe it's one
19 member from each of the Regional Advisory Councils to be
20 added to this task force that will review whether the
21 current regulations should be refined.

22
23 Now, the initial task force has a charge to
24 do that, but within the -- within recent weeks, it looks
25 like that at the request of the enforcement officers within
26 Fish and Wildlife Service, new information will be provided
27 to this task force that will probably meet in -- they were
28 originally scheduled to meet on March 27th, but when the
29 poll was taken by a staff lead person, Mr. Probasco, he
30 found out that not all of the members would be able to make
31 it, so they are now suggesting to have that meeting in
32 April. And I think they're in the process of taking the
33 poll right now from members of this task force to see if
34 April would be the appropriate date for that first meeting.

35
36 So that's what's going to happen. They are
37 going to -- the intent, the goal of the task force, or the
38 charge, would be for this task force to develop
39 recommendations for regulations on the issue of customary
40 trade. So that's -- that is my report on this.

41
42 Now, as I said, there are some interests on
43 the part of the enforcement officers to refine the
44 regulations, to establish a specific dollar amount on
45 customary trade. That is my report. (In Yup'ik)

46
47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

48
49 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

00184

1 MR. JACK: Ee-ee. Quyana.

2
3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

4
5 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik) to this customary
6 task

7
8 INTERPRETER: You had to select a
9 representative for the task force.

10
11 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik) New information that
12 will be provided by the regional office. I'm not trying to
13 develop any controversy on this, but for your information,
14 this has a potential of becoming a controversy if it's not
15 understood right. In other words, the concern of the
16 regional office and the enforcement officer is, for
17 example, a person goes out from here to subsistence fish
18 for king salmon. He takes that king salmon back, makes
19 whole bunch of strips and sells them.

20
21 MR. L. WILDE: In front of the Egan Center.

22
23 MR. JACK: Now, is -- does that action
24 itself constitute commercial sale? So the talk force is
25 going to review this fine line, I think. (In Yup'ik)

26
27 INTERPRETER: There's a thing about
28 something that is caught -- got -- caught and then turned
29 into commercial. And then another recommendation of the
30 task force, and Federal Board as well, and they're
31 reviewing that and they're going to be working on that.

32
33 MR. JACK: So there will be checks and
34 balances along the way. I would assume that if the issue
35 of subsistence taking of fish in the Yukon, is the focal
36 point of this or others, I assume that the recommendations
37 will be -- these recommendations will be provided for your
38 review. So there -- that's what I mean by checks and
39 balances. The recommendations of this customary task force
40 I assume if it's -- if the intent is for statewide
41 application, that these recommendations will be provided to
42 the Regional Advisory Councils throughout the state for
43 their review, for your review. So that's the process as I
44 understand it will be followed on this.

45
46 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman?

47
48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

49
50 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

1 INTERPRETER: The last time when they had a
2 meeting in Anchorage, they discussed on that -- discussed
3 that issue. And she sat on that meeting.

4
5 MS. GREGORY: When they had a moratorium on
6 sea mammals a few years back, and Senator Stevens and other
7 people from D.C. were in Bethel hearing -- having hearings.
8 I was one of the people that was instrumental in getting
9 the intestinal and the parts of the seals and mammals to be
10 used for arts and crafts and be sold. I think if we look
11 into that situation and look at the law of how they went
12 about it, I think things could be done. (In Yup'ik)

13
14 INTERPRETER: But they (indiscernible) a
15 long time ago like for instance when they had herring in
16 Bethel, Senator Stevens was present there at the time. We
17 did -- she advised the Senator these food stuffs that we
18 use, we could make them into our artifacts and then sell
19 them, and up to this day -- but the whole thing was open
20 for trade, like parts of meat and stuff for -- that are
21 edible.

22
23 MS. GREGORY: Fine line things. (In
24 Yup'ik)

25
26 INTERPRETER: We could use that ideal,
27 edible parts of the mammals or other animals.

28
29 MS. GREGORY: When you go after something,
30 and you know what you're doing, you can usually get it.
31 (In Yup'ik)

32
33 INTERPRETER: That's what she had to say.

34
35 MS. GREGORY: For your information.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana. (In Yup'ik) If
38 someone else want to -- question to Carl? Carl, today it's
39 quite a bit different from long time ago. Twenty, 30 years
40 ago people customary trade that they use -- they go to the
41 villages and they trade like if I'm from Hooper Bay, I'll
42 bring seal or seal oil or seal meat up to Mountain Village
43 and trade them with fish or moose meat. But today people
44 are changing their transportation, hardly any dogs any
45 more, so they burn a lot of gas to try to get the trade --
46 for trade from the fish or seal or whatever. So I don't
47 know how that thing is going to work, those task force
48 going to work on it. And it's really hard for some of our
49 people that -- because they don't trade like they used to,
50 and because of this fuel, gas and all that stuff for their

00186

1 using, and cost them more money than what they trade.

2

3 MR. JACK: Uh-huh. Mr. Chairman, on that
4 first instance, I believe that could probably fall under
5 barter, where you trade subsistence foods for another
6 subsistence foods. But defraying expenses for subsistence
7 related activities is the use of gas is what this task --
8 for example, that's just an example, is something that I
9 guess this task force will work with. I don't think, you
10 know, in Kipnuk, where I came from, it's not really a
11 problem, because there's reciprocity going on, where one
12 person might take his neighbors or whatever, and doesn't
13 charge them any gas -- I mean, anything, and with the
14 understanding that sometime down the road the person will
15 reciprocate. So it's sharing in a way over a certain
16 period of time, so that's what I've seen over there. I'd
17 say it's not really a problem in Kipnuk or that part of the
18 country.

19

20 But where there's more Western contact, it
21 tends to become a problem, like in Southeast. And at least
22 that's my understanding. I was involved in -- on the
23 halibut issue when we worked on the issue for the North
24 Pacific Fishery Management Council to recognize and
25 legalize the taking of halibut for subsistence. And when
26 that was taken up by the North Pacific Fishery Management
27 Council last fall, the issue of customary trade was also
28 discussed. And very simply what they adopted was not more
29 than \$400. That's just an example of what the North
30 Pacific will use as part of their definition for customary
31 trade. That's mainly to defray the expenditures of the
32 person that goes out to do subsistence activities, you
33 know, some person would give him some cash for the gas he
34 used, that. So that's what they did.

35

36 Now, it might be totally different in this
37 instance. And the question is, would it be appropriate to
38 apply the same standard statewide, because each region is
39 different in a way.

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Joe?

42

43 MR. J. MIKE: (In Yup'ik)

44

45 INTERPRETER: He feels that he heard like
46 -- just like the subsistence food sources that were caught
47 for -- mainly for subsistence, and that if we sell it for
48 money, if we trade it for money, we'll be identified as
49 sort of a commercial. If the subsistence food is caught
50 and they sell them for -- trade them for a little bit of

00187

1 money, and maybe you would call it as a self-determination.

2
3 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)

4
5 INTERPRETER: The law enforcement division,
6 they really need to clarify the law enforcement part of the
7 provisions. He suspects that like for instance some people
8 catch a lot of salmon, king salmon, and then make strips
9 out of them, and then sell some into -- for money. So I
10 guess what the enforcement division is trying to tighten up
11 that practice. In the staff committee meeting,.....

12
13 MR. JACK: For example, in the Staff
14 Committee, it was -- we were provided with a copy of
15 Cabella's catalogue that said Yukon strips, that's
16 commercial. They're suspecting that the Yukon strips
17 caught by -- under subsistence have entered the commercial
18 stream, and I think to my knowledge that is why this has
19 become -- this has a potential of becoming a controversy
20 down the road. I'm not -- you know, I'm just conveying the
21 information that was provided to the staff committee on
22 this issue. I'm not trying to stir up trouble or whatever.
23 I'm just relaying the information that this has a potential
24 of becoming a controversy. So it's a valid -- I think it's
25 a valid issue to be dealt with, and it should be done with
26 the understanding and support of the people that will be
27 affected on this issue. And it might be such that, you
28 know, the DOI just adopted a policy of tribal consultation.
29 The question is, does this issue rise to the level of
30 initiating tribal consultation? So that's another issue I
31 think that will surface on this.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester?

34
35 MR. L. WILDE: I think some of these issues
36 that are raised that are not actually issues, but become
37 issues because of misunderstandings. They need to be
38 clarified. I think if you might have -- if somebody was
39 interested enough to discuss that Yukon strip bit, and
40 Caballas, you might find that it is being supplied by a
41 commercial operation out of Fairbanks, and he does buy
42 Yukon salmon and smokes them. He has a commercial smokery
43 in North Pole that supplies that. Yeah, I understand, you
44 know.....

45
46 MR. JACK: It could be that.

47
48 MR. L. WILDE:even if it isn't a
49 controversy, it does become controversial, because of
50 misunderstanding, and I think what we might need to do in

00188

1 some cases of that is to require labeling of the
2 manufacturer or the person's name of the distributor of the
3 product, and I think that might cut off some of those
4 misunderstanding, if there was a requirement.

5
6 MR. JACK: Uh-huh.

7
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alvin?

9
10 MR. OWLETUCK: Okay. I think that study
11 we're going to read, or going to be something we have to
12 really look into, because if I could go subsistence with
13 kind salmon, and catch all the fish I want, and then sell
14 the roe some place else, I'm still subsistence, okay. Now,
15 we're going to have to limit that even, like if you can
16 salmon, I can can salmon, my subsistence, but I can go and
17 sell it some place else, and that's going to make me
18 overharvest what I'm going to use myself. So I'm using
19 that as subsistence and commercial, and that's going to hit
20 you, you know, it's -- we're going to have to really look
21 at that study and that -- how much likely. You can
22 overharvest king salmon because you can make a lot of
23 strips. Nobody will stop you, but you can make a big money
24 out of it after.

25
26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Carl?

27
28 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Owletuck, I
29 think these are the issues that the Customary Task Force
30 will deal with, and hopefully be able to come out with some
31 reasonable and acceptable solutions. As I said, this issue
32 needs to be -- it's something that people need to know,
33 especially the Regional Advisory Council, that this is
34 being addressed.

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) Yeah.

37
38 MR. TEELUK: Billy Teeluk. (In Yup'ik)

39
40 INTERPRETER: This is the first -- this is
41 the first time he hears about our way of life is being
42 attached upon. He himself subsist fish, but then he never
43 did go around and sell a lot, but he gave a lot of his
44 catch to members of the community, and sometimes in return
45 those that he gave, gave him something in return. And this
46 commercial dealing has gotten into our lifestyle or
47 streamline of our life. So he'd like to understand clearly
48 how it has to be dealt with, our lifestyle is being touched
49 about. It's not very acceptable thing why our lifestyle is
50 being somewhat threatened. But those of us that understand

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1 the tradition should continue. Those of us that subsist,
2 it's our tradition that we gave each other some of our
3 catch. And if someone, a working man offers a few dollars
4 for his catch, and those -- some of them that subsist who
5 have children, they have no job, and it's not easy for them
6 to purchase whatever their needs to use for subsistence.
7 Before it becomes a law, they'd like to know exactly what
8 the definition is here on the issue. So it needs to be
9 watched very clearly. Those of us that are trying to
10 survive off the land and those of use that don't have any
11 jobs, what are they trying to do with our way of life?
12 Some of them people that have jobs voluntarily give money
13 for their trade. Why the state and federal is trying to
14 alter our way of life. Thank you.

15
16 MR. JACK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. (In Yup'ik)

17
18 INTERPRETER: What you stated is a real
19 valuable information for those that work on these issues.
20 This task force, what they're going to be dealing with is
21 not coming from the native people, but the law enforcement
22 division is the one that want to clarify the issue. And it
23 also touches upon the natives way of life. So he -- Jack,
24 he himself knows that -- the value of life as a subsistence
25 hunter.

26
27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mr. Elachik?

28
29 MR. ELACHIK; Yeah. I speak on the
30 customary trade. I'm all for it. It should be done, it
31 should be carried on. The individual that sells
32 subsistence caught products should be made to individuals
33 on a cash basis within the community ought to be unlimited.
34 But if that subsistence product is sold to a commercialized
35 entity, then it should fall under state and federal
36 regulations for consumption.

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. I think it's --
39 this is just information that gives out. We go -- I think
40 we've got enough for that. If you guys want more
41 information, you could ask Carl Jack, get more information.
42 At this time we're going to break for the lunch and come
43 back 1:30, and we still have some more new business to take
44 up.

45
46 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, can I make a
47 suggestion to the public, that if you have any ideas that
48 might help Carl and -- or the group that's going to be
49 working on customary trade, I think the anthropologist
50 there would be a good person to see,.....

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE:or Carl would be a good
4 person to see if you have any ideas concerning customary
5 trade, it would be a good time for you guys to talk to
6 during -- while they're here.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Okay.

9

10 (Off record)

11 (On record)

12

13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, good afternoon,
14 Tom.

15

16 MR. RIVARD: Good afternoon, Harry.

17

18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. This afternoon
19 before we start, get into our agenda here, I think it's
20 appropriate to have a silent moment for one of our people
21 here that pass away, Gabriel Sinka. You'll remember
22 Gabriel Sinka. And also we had two areas searching right
23 now, that's where some of our council are involved, one in
24 Yukon and one in Kuskokwim, so I think we all stand up and
25 have a silence of a moment.

26

27 (Pause)

28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Now we get
30 into -- we still have on our new items that we take, one
31 item from new business, we'll go back to fisheries, this
32 15, other new item (a) Regional Council matters.

33

34 (Whispered conversation)

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So Regional Council
37 matters, you guys -- a lot of you guys know what is
38 Regional Council's matters. Ever since we start 12 years
39 ago, there has been problem with the transportation. There
40 is -- it have to be straightened out, and it's continuously
41 affecting some of our council. I don't know how to take
42 care of this. One of the council was telling me, why don't
43 you guys -- why don't you council make a resolution and
44 present it to the Board of Subsistence chairman. I think
45 I'm going to give opportunity staff on how we can work with
46 this at this time. Yeah, go ahead.

47

48 MR. RIVARD: Don Rivard, Office of
49 Subsistence Management. Mr. Chair, we're aware that there
50 have been problems with travel arrangements and that, and

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1 I've directed the coordinators in the three Yukon regions,
2 including Alex, to -- we have -- to work closely with our
3 travel coordinator in the office in Anchorage, very closely
4 with all of your travel. And what I've instructed the
5 coordinators to do is to work directly, and they've done
6 this in the past I know, to work directly with all of you
7 to get your preferences on which routes you want to fly,
8 which airlines, air services. Let Alex know, in your case,
9 Mr. Chair, that there is a direct flight from Mountain
10 Village to over this way, to Kotlik and Emmonak. The
11 travel agent that we've been working with is fairly new,
12 and so they don't know all the ins and outs of travel
13 within Alaska, so again I've asked the coordinators to work
14 closely with the council members, that you would state your
15 preferences whenever there's travel involved, and then the
16 council coordinators then talk with our travel coordinator
17 in our office and give her the flights that you want to
18 fly, and she relays them to our travel agent with specific
19 flight numbers, times of day, connections, whatever. And
20 hopefully that's going to work. It's -- but we will
21 continue to improve the system. I know that there's been
22 some problems, and I'm committed to making sure that all of
23 you are pleased with your travel. We realize you're
24 volunteers, and we really want you to feel comfortable with
25 the travel that -- arrangements that you have to make in
26 order to get to the places you're going for meetings.

27
28 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman?

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

31
32 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) And we all have
33 that freedom to do. I was just telling them they had me
34 coming here on Monday, but I had called Alex and told him
35 that I wanted to travel Tuesday night instead of Monday.
36 So those things are happening.

37
38 MR. RIVARD: Right.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: You can -- you have to --
41 each individual has to let our coordinator know. If the
42 meeting's not going to start, why go there when there's
43 another job to attend to at home.

44
45 MR. RIVARD: Right. I realize it, too.
46 I'm the same way. I want to minimize the amount of time
47 I'm traveling. I just want to get to a place as directly
48 and as fast as I can. We do have -- just recently hired
49 another person, so there are now two people that taking
50 care of travel, and the one person that deals with the

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1 Yukon-Kuskokwim area, we've got one designated for that,
2 specifically for the three councils along the Yukon. So
3 she'll become more and more familiar with the ins and outs
4 of travel in the three regions as well as we move along.
5

6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's any way for
7 the travelling in the rural areas for the council, I think
8 it would be better to taking care of by Bethel agencies
9 there, or through our coordinator.
10

11 MR. RIVARD: Well, we're under a policy now
12 that we have to go through a certain travel agent. They've
13 been contracted by the Department of Interior, so this is
14 countrywide, and they just recently opened up an office in
15 Anchorage to handle Alaska travel as well. So we've kind
16 of -- we're required to work through this travel agent.
17 And we have had problems with them. They're improving, but
18 it's something like we can't really go around right now.
19 If the problems continue, we definitely will -- we'll let
20 people in the regional office know. And just as a
21 suggestion, if you want to make a resolution, that's fine,
22 but I don't feel like it's necessary. I mean, I'm
23 committing my services to you that this will improve, and
24 I'm aware of the problem, and it will be taken care of.
25

26 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, Don, I have
27 experienced travelling for government for about 15, 16
28 years, and I've served as refuge information technician,
29 I've travelled on behalf of Yukon Delta National Wildlife
30 Refuge. In the Y-K Delta, maybe Mike could help me out on
31 this, Mike Riorden, we are allowed to use GTRs for travel,
32 and even though we're required to use or make a travel for
33 travel reservations and arrangements, because of the fact
34 that the Bush travel is very difficult, especially when
35 changes need to be made, we are allowed to be issued GTRs
36 as individual person who travels from point to point,
37 whether the point to point is. And then I'm wondering if
38 that would be possible for Y-K Delta because of the fact
39 that Yukon Delta is not like other areas. It's -- you
40 know, if counsel decides to hold their next meeting over in
41 Hooper Bay, then there will probably be some travel
42 problems for some other council members to travel from
43 Yukon to Hooper Bay, especially when, you know, there's a
44 lot of reservations, or travel arrangement made by other
45 agencies or individuals. I'm not try.....
46

47 MR. RIVARD: I'd have to look into the
48 question about the use of GTRs, I'm not sure. Those are
49 government travel request GTRs.
50

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John?

2

3 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 Yeah. I think -- well, we brought this up in our
5 Nunapitchuk meeting last March. We talked about it, and we
6 told staff that it would be better for our coordinator to
7 get in contact with the -- if they're making the travel
8 arrangements in Anchorage, have our coordinator contact the
9 travel agent in Anchorage before they do it on their own.
10 When they do it on their own, like Harry, he has to go from
11 Mountain Village to Bethel if we're holding a meeting here,
12 but I guess Harry went around some way and got his plane
13 ticket straight to Mountain to Kotlik. And if you take
14 another village, like Emmonak, if we're going to go there,
15 they'd probably do the same thing if they make it in
16 Anchorage. The people from Mountain, Marshall, they have
17 to go Bethel, and then from Bethel over this way. And I
18 think our coordinator can take care of that, instead of
19 them going to Bethel, they could go from Marshall or
20 Mountain Village straight to Emmonak if we're going to hold
21 a meeting here, instead of Anchorage making the
22 reservations, have to go from their village over to Bethel
23 and from Bethel to where the meeting is. Because we have
24 Grant flying to Bethel, to each lower villages. Hageland
25 flies from Mountain to Bethel, and to the lower villages,
26 and that way there won't be a mix up on flights.

27
28 MR. RIVARD: Right.

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester?

31
32 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, one other
33 thing that needs to be addressed is charge versus cash
34 tickets. Tickets that are being charged to the Department
35 or to the Bureau or whatever Fish and Wildlife is, I don't
36 know what classification to the bureaucrats I think, but
37 anyway what they tend to do is they tend -- when you go
38 through the travel people, they don't take into
39 consideration that some of those airlines consider a ticket
40 a charged ticket, a charge, so therefore they're going to
41 be charging more. So if you paid my fare from Hooper Bay
42 to here, or from Hooper Bay to Bethel through Grant, and
43 the ticket says -- and Grant told you \$85, that's a cash
44 payment. But when it come -- when I get my ticket, they
45 charge me an additional \$36, because it's a charge payment.
46 So I have to take -- pay that out of my pocket. And when I
47 travel, I don't usually travel with any money in my pocket,
48 thinking that I'm going to live off the per diem that I get
49 here. And so I don't really at times have that spare \$36
50 to give them to make it home or make it here, so I think

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1 that's got to be looked into also.

2

3 MR. RIVARD: Just for clarification, Mr.
4 Chair, that -- Lester, that means that they're charging you
5 as you come to the counter to pick up your ticket,.....

6

7 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

8

9 MR. RIVARD:there's -- okay.

10

11 MR. L. WILDE: They're charging me an
12 additional because it's a charge ticket and not.....

13

14 MR. RIVARD: Okay.

15

16 MR. L. WILDE:a cash transform --
17 transaction, so I have to pay what they charge a charge
18 customer additionally.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, John.

21

22 MR. HANSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One
23 other thing I forgot is when I have to travel to Anchorage,
24 when I'm called in for a meeting, I'd rather take Alakanuk,
25 Emmonak, Anchorage, because that's cheaper than going
26 Alakanuk, Bethel, Anchorage. That way I have a straight
27 flight, and I don't have to spend a night in Bethel waiting
28 for an airline, so when they make my flight from Alakanuk
29 if I have to go to some meeting, federal meeting, then I
30 would just rather take Grant from Alakanuk to Anchorage.

31

32 MR. RIVARD: Okay. And that's again what
33 you need to do is every time you need to travel like that
34 is just let Alex know that that's your preference, and Alex
35 will then relay that onto our travel coordinator.

36

37 MR. L. WILDE: I think we've had less
38 trouble with Alex the short time that Alex has been on,
39 we've had less trouble than we've had in the years past
40 with our travel, but there is still some problems.

41

42 MR. RIVARD: Right.

43

44 MR. HANSON: Like I know that in January --
45 was it January?

46

47 SEVERAL: January.

48

49 MR. HANSON: Me and Harry, they had our
50 travel go from Alakanak, mine, Harry's from Mountain, to

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1 Bethel. Well, Alaska Airlines had the tickets. We went
2 over and we found out they were on electronic tickets, and
3 that's bad for the people that travel from around here or
4 from Kuskokwim, because once they have that electronic
5 ticket, Harry had to stay one hour, I had to stay an hour
6 before they even pulled it out. So electronic tickets.....

7

8 MS. GREGORY: Don't work out here.

9

10 MR. HANSON:don't work good around
11 here.

12

13 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, one other
14 experience that I wanted to share with you, especially Don,
15 so that he can convey this to the travel -- someone who's
16 taking care of the travel in Anchorage, is that some of our
17 council members, they have to travel through Hageland
18 Aviation when they travel to villages, and then they have
19 to take a cab if they're in a hurry to go pick their ticket
20 up from Alaska Airlines, because, you know, it's electronic
21 ticket, and it has to be made there. And then because of
22 the fact that Grant Aviation or Hageland Aviation will not
23 put any of the passengers on unless they have their ticket,
24 and that's another problem they're running into in the last
25 few travel arrangements that I made for the council members
26 here, and, you know, we need to -- really need to do
27 something about this travel situation, because it takes
28 about one or two days of my time just to take care of the
29 travel, so that they'll have less trouble getting to where
30 they're going, because, you know, like this -- for this
31 travel, you -- we would have -- we probably would have more
32 mad council members, like Lester Wilde, maybe. I'm not
33 picking on you, Lester, but I'm going to take example.
34 Lester Wilde did not receive his itinerary in Hooper Bay,
35 and Cassandra told me those itineraries were mailed out to
36 council members, but Lester never received his. She did e-
37 mail a copy to me, so I told him the locator number, and I
38 also submitted, in last minute I submitted change of travel
39 itinerary for him, because they had him travelling on the
40 12th of March to travel from Hooper Bay, overnight in
41 Bethel, and then take the next day flight on the 13th to
42 Kotlik, and also on the return, they had him travelling
43 back to Bethel on the 17th. And, you know, and I told
44 those people he could make it from Hooper Bay to Kotlik in
45 one day, and all it takes is just, you know, a matter of
46 making reservations for him. So these are the type of
47 things that we need to take care of.

48

49 Only one unfortunately for Harry Wilde
50 here, I didn't know it, this is the umph time I know,

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1 because I used to be serving as interpreter for RAC members
2 for a few years, and regional council chairman is probably
3 the one who's always having problem with his travel all the
4 time, almost all the time. This trip, Cassandra told me
5 his ticket could not be changed. When I find out there was
6 -- you know, I knew there was a direct flight, and I've
7 been telling Cassandra all winter long there's a direct
8 flight from Mountain Village to Kotlik. They had him --
9 they had his ticket from Mountain Village to Bethel, Bethel
10 to Kotlik, Kotlik to Bethel, and back to Mountain Village.
11 That's one hour extra travel or maybe more. And to make
12 things worse, they told me his ticket was in Bethel, but
13 Harry find out that his ticket was not in Bethel either.

14
15 So those are the kind of travel situations
16 we're running into, and to tell you the truth, I am taking
17 a lot of my time just for travel every time when the
18 council members are going to travel from their village to
19 Bethel and return. And I think I could spend my time more
20 into business than their travel when there's somebody paid
21 to do that in Anchorage. I'm not picking on you, Don, but,
22 you know, I'm just telling you what's the travel problems
23 I'm running into.

24
25 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, I just wanted to
26 reiterate to the Council that, and I think you all know
27 this already, but the way it works, in order to have all
28 your travel advances ready in time for a meeting is we need
29 to have at least three weeks lead time. I just wanted to
30 emphasize that's why it starts so early, preferably about a
31 month before a meeting is when Alex will start calling you
32 up and getting your preferences for flights and all that,
33 because we do need to have at least three weeks in order
34 for that -- the request that comes out of our office for
35 your per diem. It's somewhat of a lengthy process. These
36 checks go back -- or the requests go back to Denver, and
37 that's where the checks are issued, out of Denver, so just
38 I wanted to reiterate that as well.

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

41
42 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, one other thing
43 that I would like to bring up at this time is that I
44 remember when the Council Nunapitchuk, they directed -- the
45 Council directed their coordinator, John Andrew at the
46 time, to look into the possibility of chartering to and
47 from location of the meeting, and they did that to -- you
48 know, minimize problems. But when I asked our travel
49 office in Anchorage, they told me it could not be done. I
50 calculated the cost of charter from Bethel to Kotlik back

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1 to Bethel, and I find out by calculations that we would
2 have saved at least \$60 per person on the travel if we
3 chartered from Bethel to here and return. And it.....

4
5 MR. RIVARD: Well, if I might say something
6 there, that's always a possibility, but there's some
7 conditions that have to be met. What's difficult about
8 chartering is as you see, some members decided not to come.
9 And we can charter based on if it's going to be at a cost
10 advantage to the government. It as to be no more than what
11 it would cost to fly on commercial airlines. And if some
12 people cancel out at the last minute, then that price goes
13 up. So it -- part of what has to happen is there's got to
14 be basically a guarantee that people are going to show up
15 in order to charter. So that's one of the conditions. And
16 things always change. Sometimes things happen, and you
17 can't make a meeting. So we just have to be very careful
18 with the use of charters. It's not that it can't be done,
19 but it -- there's a lot of conditions that have to be meet
20 in order to charter.

21
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: And I think it's one of
23 them, too, those -- whoever make tickets, and the ticket
24 agents or something, they try to go by Alaska Airline
25 connections, they have like one of them is Pen Air. If the
26 Pen Air -- the ticket is made out to Pen Air, other
27 airlines, rural airlines wouldn't take it, because it costs
28 less than their.....

29
30 MR. RIVARD: Than their costs?

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)
33 That's one of the problems, too. I think whoever make,
34 agency, they should know the cost of the fare to the
35 villages. One time, too, not -- this last time or a couple
36 times when I go to Anchorage, the ticket came, and I was
37 really glad, because I got a ticket ready to go at Mountain
38 Village, and I just look at it and see Era. Era don't come
39 into Mountain Village. So these things, it's the kind of
40 problem to us, you know. That's why it's -- I think that
41 some of our member would be here if they have -- tired of
42 problems of try to get to the -- where the meeting is going
43 to be. Any more?

44
45 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I think we
46 should have our travel be taken care of by Bethel people,
47 because like we said, we know what we're doing, and we're
48 not new to the country, we've been there for a long time,
49 and you should grant us that wish, because we travel all
50 over the place. And charters, when nobody don't show up,

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1 the cost doesn't change, because I've chartered planes.
2 The cost is the hourly rate from Point A to Point B,
3 doesn't change no matter how many people are on it.

4
5 MR. RIVARD: That's correct, but if you're
6 -- we do it by cost per person, so it it's scheduled for
7 ten people, and only five show up, then it's twice as much
8 per person.....

9
10 MS. GREGORY: So.....

11
12 MR. RIVARD:basically, so that's --
13 we'll have to look into that.

14
15 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, we'd like to have our
16 travel be taken care of by people who are capable of doing
17 that in our area. Like we said, it's travelling in the
18 Bush is much different than the urban areas, because have
19 follow by the weather. If the weather doesn't -- like you
20 guys didn't make it. You had to stay overnight in Emmonak,
21 and we have to wait long precious time waiting for them, so
22 these kind of things need to be taken into consideration.

23
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Well, we figure, too,
25 they're precious people.

26
27 MS. GREGORY: At least (indiscernible)
28 precious time yesterday.

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: They were two -- for
31 these people, fisheries are very important thing, that's
32 why we tried to hold off down to -- tried to hold it back
33 and.....

34
35 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I think he
36 knows where we're coming from now.

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: So -- and he'll relate.....

41
42 MR. RIVARD: And Alex and I are both
43 dedicated to making sure it works for you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. We appreciate
46 that. Thank you.

47
48 MR. RIVARD: You're welcome.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So we have to do

00199

1 nothing.

2

3 MR. RIVARD: Well, I won't guarantee that,

4 but.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Let's go back to
7 our main agenda. We left off our agenda from first, second
8 page of agenda, down in Office of Subsistence Management,
9 down to Department of Interior Policy, Tribals and down to
10 the second, process and contracts for resource monitoring
11 position. Who need to take that?

12

13 MR. MATTHEWS: I think Carl did it already.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Carl did it?

16 Okay.

17

18 MR. MATTHEWS: I mean, he may have more to
19 say, but I think he covered that when he talked about
20 partnerships.

21

22 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) Yeah, he did it.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Who going to take care
25 of fishery resource monitoring program, supposed to be by
26 Rich Cannon?

27

28 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. I.....

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Tom? Okay.

31

32 MS. GREGORY: Item 2 12(e).

33

34 MR. L. WILDE: Tom is one of the precious
35 people.

36

37 MS. GREGORY: Can you state your name for
38 me, please?

39

40 MR. KRON: Mr. Chairman.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Tom.

43

44 MR. KRON: Mary, my name is Tom Kron, U.S.
45 Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence
46 Management, and I'll be giving the overview on the fishery
47 monitoring programs.

48

49 A number of you attended the meeting in
50 Anchorage on February 6th and 7th when the decisions were

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1 made on the projects for 2001, and again Jerry has just
2 passed out the summary, and it should look real familiar.
3 The -- after you met with the other Yukon River regional
4 councils, the Federal Subsistence Board met and I guess I'm
5 happy to report it's very simple. Essentially what they
6 did was to go along with your recommendations. They
7 approved the projects consistent with the direction that
8 you gave them. There were a total of \$7.2 million in
9 projects that were funded. Of those, 21 projects were
10 funded for the Yukon, 19 projects were funded for the
11 Kuskokwim.

12
13 The program focuses mainly on stock status
14 and trends, harvest monitoring, and traditional ecological
15 knowledge, and facilitates cooperation between the federal,
16 state, regional and local groups. It is a cooperative
17 effort to provide much needed subsistence information.

18
19 I'll move on quickly to the 2002 fishery
20 monitoring program. The initial 2002 project proposals are
21 in and are being reviewed at this time. So far we've
22 received about 120 new proposals. At your regional council
23 meetings next fall, we will be requesting recommendations
24 to the Federal Subsistence Board concerning the 2002
25 projects. At this time there will be -- at that time there
26 will be a report on the status of monitoring programs and
27 projects that were funded in 2000 and 2001 as well.

28
29 That completes my report, Mr. Chairman.
30 Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Do you have a question
33 for Tom? Any council? Looks like you do a good job
34 already, so.....

35
36 MR. BENDER: Fish monitoring, is that only
37 harvest monitoring we're talking about or is it like the
38 health and welfare.

39
40 COURT REPORTER: Geof, I can't hear you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, we can't hear you
43 from here.

44
45 MR. KRON: Come up.

46
47 MR. BENDER: The monitoring, is it just the
48 harvest, to keep the harvest count we're talking about or
49 is it the monitoring of the fish stocks in general,
50 research money that we're talking about?

00201

1 MR. KRON: It's -- there's some harvest
2 monitoring, there's also monitoring of the stock status.
3 There's also monitoring of basically subsistence harvest
4 and traditional ecological knowledge, and again many of
5 these projects are funded for involvement of local
6 communities, regional groups like AVCP and Tanana Chiefs
7 Corporation, for example, so the funding has gone out to a
8 variety of different sources, for it's for many different
9 subsistence oriented things.

10
11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

12
13 MR. BENDER: Well, I'm.....

14
15 MR. KRON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16
17 MR. BENDER: I'm really glad to hear that,
18 because when I went to the meeting in Anchorage, and they
19 were talking about these problems in the ocean, and nobody
20 knew where these fish were going, and so some people told
21 me the way we would be able to keep track of these fish, is
22 if these fish at the point where they spawn, where they lay
23 their eggs, are genetically mapped, and that way when
24 there's a problem in the ocean, we'll know exactly where
25 those fish are headed for. I'm recommending we seek
26 funding to genetically map every spawning area in our area,
27 and that the work be done by local hire, and that funds be
28 gotten to initiate the process, that we have people
29 qualified eventually at least to take the higher level
30 positions as opposed to only low. So I'm making that
31 recommendation here both.....

32
33 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I think if you
34 -- I think if you would put that in the form of a proposal
35 that can be made into a proposal form. There's proposal
36 forms that are available. You can write it up, bring it
37 before us, and we'll check into it. It's as simple as
38 that. Just get a proposal form, write a proposal, send it
39 in, and see what happens.

40
41 MR. BENDER: It's not as -- I'll do that,
42 but it's not as simple as that. It's going to take some
43 politicking.

44
45 MR. L. WILDE: I know, it's going to take a
46 lot of time, but then that's a good way to at least get
47 some attention. That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman?

50

00202

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Kron, you said something
4 about 2002 projects are in? Are they included in this
5 handout, or what do you mean by that?

6

7 MR. KRON: Mr Chairman, Mary, the 2002
8 proposal process was completed several weeks ago. Again
9 there were requests that went out to the villages and the
10 regional native corporations, and various groups, and
11 people were asked to submit their initial proposals, and
12 again those initial proposals were due here a couple weeks
13 ago. But again, I do not have a complete list at this time
14 of the proposals. All I know is that they've come in.
15 They're trying to work through them right now.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: Do you have an idea how many?

18

19 MR. KRON: There were 120 statewide, about.
20 And again, the plan will be to present them to you at your
21 fall regional council meeting for your review and
22 consideration.

23

24 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

25

26 MR. KRON: Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Anyone
29 else? Thank you, Tom. Next on our agenda is four, number
30 4, partnership for fisheries monitoring.

31

32 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman, Carl Jack. That's
33 the presentation I made this morning. Number 4 is tied to
34 the -- it's tied to the process to contract for resource
35 monitoring positions. Those are two and the same.

36

37 One important element that I forgot to
38 mention is the amount that will be used to fund the fish --
39 partnership for fisheries monitoring, those nine positions
40 will be deducted from the next year's fisheries information
41 projects. So keep that in mind. That's what I was told by
42 Mr. Boyd and Peggy Fox, that those -- the amount to fund
43 those positions will be deducted from the fisheries
44 information system programs. Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you, Carl.
47 Carl Jack. I think it's very important for us here. If
48 something you're going to talk about or someone's going to
49 talk about, if it's on agenda, we would appreciate if we
50 know before you talk about it, or someone talk about it.

00203

1 If it's on agenda. So.....

2

3 MR. JACK: Yeah, I forgot to mention that.

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE:so we don't have
7 to double it up. Uh-huh.

8

9 MR. JACK: Okay. Thanks.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Guyana. Next is
12 on F, fisheries management update. Who's taking this?
13 That's report from the regional council members. Oh,
14 members. Yeah. Who attend the BOF meeting? So, we had
15 some -- come on.

16

17 MR. L. WILDE: I was one of them. I had a
18 report all written, but I don't have it with me, so I kind
19 of have to do it verbally I guess. Well, I think one of
20 the main reasons why we were invited to attend the Board of
21 Fisheries meeting was to get an experience, and to see how
22 the process, the Fish Board process works. And as I
23 observed, one of the things I had problems on was getting
24 on one of the advisory groups, because they didn't --
25 although they said they would recognize our Regional
26 Advisory Councils, they did not have a list of Regional
27 Advisory Council members who were -- who were to be part of
28 the committees, so I had a little problem getting on the
29 advisory committee, even though I was designated as a
30 spokesman for us at the time. But when I got on, I
31 realized that the process that the Fishing Board -- Board
32 of Fish has is pretty much the same process that we use in
33 our deliberations here as advisory council. The only thing
34 is that in testifying -- where they testify instead of
35 getting -- having all the time that they got to testify, in
36 some cases they were allowed just three minutes, at the
37 particular time they were allowed just three minutes. But
38 the process, the whole process of the Board of Fish is
39 exactly the same as the process we use here on the Regional
40 Advisory Council. Any questions?

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Hanson?

43

44 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
45 I was also over there with Lester, James Charlie was there,
46 Robert Nick. There was a lot of us, but when we testified,
47 we had to testify on our own, which really upset me a
48 little in testifying. They gave us three minutes to
49 testify, but when I got up, it was less than three minutes,
50 because when I stood up, my light was already red. It was

00204

1 almost gone. So I just said a few words, and that was it.
2 So I don't know if the other members that were there, they
3 testified the full three minutes.

4
5 But the process, it's not new to me. The
6 old Fish Board process that they've been going through, and
7 Tom knows, because he was the regional supervisor when I
8 was on the Fish Board. So other than that, there wasn't
9 too much to say about the Board of Fish meeting.

10
11 I was on a committee with Norton Sound.
12 When I got on the committee, I was on with the regional
13 council member. That was the only difference I had to do
14 was when I got on the committee, the chairman of that
15 committee asked me if I was on the regional council and I
16 told him yeah. So -- but I didn't stay all the way
17 through.

18
19 MR. L. WILDE: I was totally ignored. I
20 was totally ignored until they found out that I was from
21 the regional council. So I would suggest the next time
22 that you -- the staff would like us to participate in
23 anything like that, that the names of the people that are
24 on the council be made present to the -- like the Fish
25 Board chairman, or whoever takes care of the committees
26 over there. That would make it a lot easier for whoever
27 comes in later.

28
29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Tom.

30
31 MR. KRON: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I guess in
32 response to Lester's point, we probably could have done a
33 better job of communicating that to the Board members, but
34 again the Office of Subsistence Management staff had
35 specifically requested that regional council members
36 receive a seat on the committee automatically, and that
37 happened. But again, you know, your point is a good one.
38 I think we need to in the future make sure that everybody
39 understands that you're regional council members. You
40 received seats, but it sounds like it wasn't communicated
41 as well as it probably could have been.

42
43 MR. L. WILDE: You were there, I guess you
44 know that when I was trying to make a couple points, that I
45 was totally ignored until -- I've known Virgil ever since
46 he was the chairman of -- we happened to chair the meeting,
47 and he knew me, but he totally ignored me, because there
48 was no indication as to who I was or where I was.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Tom.

1 MR. KRON: Yes. Another informational
2 piece, very quickly, under tab F there's information that
3 Jerry Berg and I had put together. Jerry put the
4 information together for the Kuskokwim, and I put it
5 together for the Yukon. And again it's -- you'll note it's
6 marked draft in the middle, but it's just a summary of what
7 Board actions were taken relative to subsistence. It's in
8 your notebook under tab F, towards the back. So there's a
9 summary there for your information and reference. And
10 again it is a draft still. We still have not gotten the
11 official response from the State, but, you know, Tom Vania,
12 for example, has been able to review this. Polly Wheeler
13 has looked at it. We think it's fairly close, but there
14 may be some changes when we get the final from the State.
15 Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: James, you was one of
18 the people that sent over? Did you want to say something?
19

20 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
21 also attended the Board of Fish meeting there in Anchorage,
22 and I do not have written report, but I'm glad that the
23 Board of Fish adopted an item that I requested in front of
24 them, and I gave testimony that my area wanted, was they
25 wanted subsistence fishing there on the Kuskokwim, and not
26 -- I mean, they -- what they wanted was they did not want
27 closed periods instead of like when we have open periods
28 for commercial fishing, that's what they didn't want for
29 subsistence. They want -- they wanted to fish continually
30 -- or continuously for a few days and close the subsistence
31 fishing for so many days. So the Board adopted four-day
32 subsistence fishing and.....
33

34 MS. GREGORY: Three days.

35
36 MR. CHARLES: And closed for three days.
37 And I'm glad they took my suggestion. And another one was
38 the time of fishing, but the other day we were going to --
39 I attended the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working
40 Group meeting, but they did not have quorum then, and that
41 time they were going to work on when to close for
42 subsistence fishing, so they did not have quorum, and we
43 talked about it, but did not act on nothing. So like John
44 said, the red light came on right away, so I did not give
45 all the -- all my testimony then at the Anchorage meeting.
46
47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Anyone have a question
49 for these people that represent the Council over in the
50 Board meeting? I was over there, too, but I was wearing a

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1 different hat, Tom. I had to work harder, because we had
2 proposal from upriver for the statewide six-inch mesh for
3 catching kings. So I have to have -- I had to do extra
4 fighting, make sure that six inches wouldn't pass, because
5 it's hard for us in the lower Yukon River. We never had
6 six-inch mesh in the fishing for king salmon. This -- the
7 six-inch mesh was statewide, come from upriver and go
8 through Yukon Drainage Fishermen Association, and we had to
9 work down to the last breath I think, but when they voted,
10 they vote it out. That's the reason I make sure that
11 staff, subsistence staff know that I'm not going to be
12 represent federal subsistence. Yeah, that's why I didn't
13 represent.

14
15 Okay. So -- Lester, go ahead.

16
17 MR. L. WILDE: Harry, one clarification, we
18 weren't sent there to represent our RAC, we were sent there
19 to observe and make reports to our other regional
20 council.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah.

23
24 MR. L. WILDE:so we weren't really
25 representatives of this Regional Council. Just for point
26 of -- for the record and point of clarification.

27
28 MR. SAVAGE: Mr. Chairman?

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mike.

31
32 MR. SAVAGE: Yeah, this is my first year on
33 the board here, and I went up to the Fairbanks one, and it
34 was very interesting and I'm learning stuff as I'm going
35 along. I'm still learning of things that I guess we've got
36 to start following by and my opinion on this is the --
37 we're starting to be treated like fishermen, but that's
38 just my opinion. It's learning. I'm learning as I go
39 along. So it's interesting. It was very interesting up
40 there at Fairbanks.

41
42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Any more? Okay.
43 Tom?

44
45 MR. KRON: I guess I wanted to thank --
46 many of you came in for the Board of Fish meeting, and
47 participated there, you know, for quite a long time, and
48 participated in the committee meetings, and I think I
49 wanted to thank all of you that came in for that meeting
50 and offered your time and efforts and knowledge to

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1 contribute to that process. It's real important to work,
2 you know, cooperatively with the State Board of Fish and
3 that process, and again I wanted to thank you all that were
4 able to come in. Thanks.

5

6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, okay.

7

8 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I'd also
9 just like to echo Tom's words, that it was really helpful
10 to have all of you there at the Board of Fish. For them to
11 get to know you as a federal council representative I think
12 was important, and then to also share your concerns back on
13 this side to share your experiences on what happened at the
14 Board of Fish meeting, and I think it was all -- you know,
15 it was our first year of doing that, and I think we'll only
16 get better at being able to work closer with the two
17 systems in the future. But I think over -- you know,
18 overall it really went fairly well, and I think the reports
19 today even reflect that. So I really appreciate all the
20 efforts that you guys put in to attend the meeting and
21 providing input. I think it was listened to, and was
22 valuable input. Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think it's -- we go
25 to the next one on our agenda. I don't know if this has
26 been go through or not, Yukon River Drainage Fishery
27 Management Protocol. Did we go through that? Okay.
28 Monty.

29

30 MR. MALLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If you
31 will turn to tab F, about one, two, three, four, four pages
32 back from the front. Yeah, the Yukon River Drainage
33 Subsistence Salmon Fishery Management protocol, and
34 basically.....

35

36 MS. GREGORY: Your last name?

37

38 MR. MALLARD: Find it?

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Monty.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Monty.

43

44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

45

46 MS. GREGORY: Last name?

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Monty Mallard.

49

50 MR. L. WILDE: We've got a new secretary,

00208

1 Monty.

2
3 MR. MALLARD: Okay.

4
5 MS. GREGORY: I'm not secretary, I'm just
6 filling in.

7
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

9
10 MS. GREGORY: M-a-l-l-a-r-d?

11
12 MR. MALLARD: That's correct, Monty
13 Mallard.

14
15 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

16
17 MR. MALLARD: The Yukon River -- the
18 protocol that's in front of you here, the goals, of course,
19 are presented here, to manage all fisheries for healthy
20 fish populations and sustained yield.

21
22 MS. GREGORY: Tab F, page what?

23
24 MR. MALLARD: F. Probably page four.

25
26 MS. GREGORY: Page four.

27
28 MR. L. WILDE: Page what? On page four
29 you're.....

30
31 MR. MALLARD: Well, about the fourth page
32 back, Lester.

33
34 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, this one don't have a
35 page number.

36
37 MR. MALLARD: No, it doesn't have -- I'm
38 just counting from my mind.

39
40 MR. L. WILDE: I didn't want Mary to get
41 confused. More confused then.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: One, two, three, four. Yes.
44 Got it.

45
46 MR. MALLARD: All right. Basically the
47 goals are presented there, to manage fisheries for healthy
48 fish populations and sustained yield, and to provide for
49 commercial, recreation, and personal use harvest when a
50 harvestable surplus is sufficient, and to maximize

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1 cooperation.

2

3

4 And I think the last one is probably how
5 the state and federal governments are utilizing the
6 document to the greatest extent, to maximize cooperation.
7 And it delineates, outlines how the state and the federal
8 government will interact with one another. As you can well
9 imagine, it's very difficult having federal lands and state
10 lands, with the state having responsibility for commercial
11 and sport fish and subsistence on state lands, and then the
12 federal government having responsibilities for subsistence
13 on federal lands. It's all very confusing to all of us as
14 you are well aware.

15

16 So this simply lays out a mechanism for how
17 the state and federal governments and the RACs can
18 coordinate their thought processes and their actions. Last
19 year was the first year, and there were a few difficulties,
20 and this provides the federal government and the state with
21 the roles that we each hold. And if you turn to page five
22 of this particular document, it shows that -- the roles of
23 the Regional Councils, subsistence users, and other
24 affected public interests. Your responsibilities are to
25 review preseason management plan to identify resource
26 subsistence concerns, and essentially that's what we'll be
27 going over later today, the beginning of the preseason
28 management plans and trying to gain your input.
29 Participate in meetings between state and federal managers,
30 and fishery interest groups, before, during and after the
31 season. And this is what I've really tried to stress with
32 the various groups that we've talked to that there's very
33 little left to be done in-season, although there's always a
34 lot of concerns and complaints. It just happens too
35 rapidly, particularly in the lower river, and the input
36 that's most effective is if you see in-season activities
37 that are occurring that don't please you, well, you have a
38 process now, both in-season and post-season through
39 regulation changes, and any time you submit a proposal, it
40 will be considered by you, and then the Federal Subsistence
41 Board at that time. And sometimes it will have an impact
42 upon state regulations at some point in the future.

43

44 You're also to receive relevant state and
45 federal in-season news releases, and I think many of you
46 received almost too many last year from what I've heard,
47 but we're going to try to shorten some of these news
48 releases down to make it a little bit more functional this
49 coming year.

50

And then, of course, again participate in

00210

1 post season reviews and evaluations.

2

3 The federal managers participate in the
4 state preseason, in-season and post-season management
5 conference calls with fishery interest groups, which we do
6 on a regular basis, and provide input to the state during
7 development of annual Yukon River preseason management
8 plan. So again that's one reason that I'm here today, to
9 get input from you so that we can approach the state with
10 your suggestions on how we are going to manage fisheries on
11 -- subsistence fisheries on federal lands this coming year.
12 And then to share fishery information with state managers
13 in a timely manner, and a number of our projects we do on a
14 daily basis. We provide that information to the state
15 managers.

16

17 Issue federal special actions and news
18 releases. These are generally done in coordination or at
19 the same time with the state emergency actions and news
20 releases.

21

22 And again participate in post-season
23 reviews and evaluations with state managers. And again
24 that's one reason we're here today, to participate in post-
25 season reviews and evaluations with state managers, and
26 what might be anticipated for next year. And coordinating
27 with the coordinating fisheries committee and other
28 affected interests.

29

30 And the state managers essentially about
31 the same thing. It's a reciprocal type action between the
32 agencies.

33

34 And hopefully this protocol when it's
35 signed will allow all of us to participate in a more
36 meaningful fashion in post-season, in-season and preseason.
37 And with that I'll leave it to any questions that are
38 necessary, Mr. Chair.

39

40 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chair?

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

43

44 MR. L. WILDE: Monty, first of all I want
45 to thank you for all the information that you did send out,
46 and I have -- I myself am interested in that, the
47 information that I get from salmon fisheries, so you can
48 delete me out of that list that says cut down. You know,
49 you could send me whatever you get,.....

50

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1 MR. MALLARD: Well,.....

2

3 MR. L. WILDE:because it really does
4 help us in making the decis -- some of the decisions that
5 we have to make and information that we receive from you is
6 timely, and helpful -- a lot more helpful than you think it
7 is.

8

9 MR. MALLARD: Well, I thank you for that.
10 Mr. Chair, I know there are some concerns though, because
11 some of the villages are charging \$2 a page, \$3 a page, and
12 some of these documents get to be quite thick. And I don't
13 know exactly how we're going to address that particular
14 issue, but it's something that will have to be addressed in
15 this season and following seasons.

16

17 And also, I'd like to know as a group, most
18 of my communications with the coordinating fisheries
19 committee, just one or two of you, and in this case it
20 would be John and Harry, and I just want to make sure that
21 you all feel comfortable with the information that you're
22 receiving from both the state and coordinating fishery
23 committee. I just -- I mean, I need some feedback. Do you
24 need more information, or do you need less as part of the
25 protocol process?

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John?

28

29 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 Yeah, Monty, on your first page here on the draft where it
31 says a coordinated in-season management program will
32 minimize interruptions to the fisheries as well as minimize
33 duplication in effort. Does this meet that even the state
34 or the -- or is it the federal that's going to minimize the
35 disruptions of fisheries?

36

37 MR. MALLARD: A very good question. It's
38 both.

39

40 MR. HANSON: It's both.

41

42 MR. MALLARD: And last year we got started
43 very late as you well know. There were -- funds were
44 provided in an appropriate manner. I would have to say
45 that the federal government has had a very difficult time
46 trying to coordinate. This year we're well in advance of
47 last year, and by the time that the preseason plans are
48 developed, there will be input not only from the RACS, but
49 considerable meetings between the state and federal
50 government to ensure that there's no disruptions between

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1 the agencies and between the RACs. Hopefully at least the
2 RACs will be on board with the decision-making process, and
3 I think that's very important for that. But we can't
4 afford in-season to be having disagreements on the way the
5 season should be managed. If so, it needs to be done
6 following the protocol in a more discrete manner very
7 possibly.

8
9 MR. HANSON: So 2001, June comes around,
10 and if the Department of Fish and Game's prediction from
11 last year comes through to both Kuskokwim and the Yukon on
12 salmon, then you're going to have to disrupt the fisheries,
13 you're going to have to disrupt subsistence, both the state
14 and the federal.

15
16 MR. MALLARD: That's very true. Hopefully
17 we won't have to disrupt any relationships. Now the
18 fisheries are -- can very well be disrupted. Hopefully the
19 preseason is outlined well enough that you as a group
20 understand what may be coming forward, but at least we as a
21 group understand, and we won't be disrupted among
22 ourselves.

23
24 MR. HANSON: So what I'm getting out of
25 this is the fisheries on the Yukon and Kuskokwim are going
26 to be disrupted. The fisheries that are intercepting
27 aren't going to be disrupted.

28
29 MR. MALLARD: Well, I tend to disagree,
30 John. For instance, Area M was restricted about 60 percent
31 this last year.

32
33 MR. HANSON: Well, that's -- I went through
34 that, but that's -- that six percent doesn't mean too much
35 for Area M. I mean, they might say, well, you disrupt our
36 fishery by putting windows. Yeah, they put windows, but
37 then if you look at it the other way, they took the chum
38 cap off, so it's not really disrupting the Area M fishery.
39 That's how I look at it. So rather than disrupting Area M
40 that's taking the chums going to the Yukon and Kuskokwim or
41 Norton Sound, this disruption is going to hit the Yukon and
42 Kuskokwim. That's how I look at it. So I'll just stop on
43 that, until.....

44
45 MR. MALLARD: And you're waiting for a
46 response.

47
48 MR. HANSON: the main cause of action (ph)
49 sits on their heads (ph), (indiscernible).

50

00213

1 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman?

2
3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Les.

4
5 MR. L. WILDE: In the event that the
6 Kuskokwim, Yukon and the areas that are affected by the
7 Area M fisheries, in the event that we should have to, if
8 we should have to curtail our subsistence in this area, is
9 somebody going to make sure that those people down in the
10 Area M also bear the burden of management, also bear some
11 burden to the -- for our discomfort or.....

12
13 MR. MALLARD: Again, these are the type of
14 issues, Lester, that will occur in season. And I think
15 it's going to be very difficult to restrict Area M further
16 in season. However, again, post season you have the
17 opportunity to voice your concerns that Area M needs to be
18 cut even further, and at that point it will be evaluated by
19 a lot of scientists and yourselves to see if further
20 restrictions to Area M need to occur. I don't think it's
21 -- there's anything we can do in-season that rapidly. When
22 we -- by the time we find out there's a problem, it's
23 already over with by the time we can do anything about it.

24
25 MR. L. WILDE: I have one other question.
26 The state has an X-amount of fish that need to go through
27 the state be -- or to the spawning grounds, and with our
28 agreement to the Canadians, and if they're not going
29 through, then they cut off subsistence. In that event, you
30 see that there needs to be time for subsistence within the
31 areas that depend on those fisheries, are you -- or do you
32 have the ability to step in and say, wait a minute, we need
33 to give these guys at least a day or two to catch at least
34 one or two fish to put away for the winter? Is the
35 facility (ph) within wildlife or on the federal waters have
36 that authority?

37
38 MR. MALLARD: That's a very good question.
39 Yes, I have that authority. However, I think I can
40 guarantee you that this meeting is very important, and Tom
41 Vania and I and others will be talking about the Kusko and
42 the Yukon River management possibilities later on this
43 afternoon.

44
45 I guess it somewhat depends upon you. A
46 lot of it has to do with are you going to save fish for
47 your children? We've already lost several year classes.
48 What are we going to do as a group to get fish back on the
49 spawning grounds? It's going to create a lot of suffering
50 for all of us, and I certainly don't agree making those --

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1 or I certainly don't like making these kinds of decisions.
2 And hopefully we're very positively surprised this coming
3 year, but all we can do is look at the past two years and
4 make some decisions, and I can't really answer your
5 questions, although again the decisions can be made. But
6 I'm just hoping that preseason that we can come to some
7 type of conclusions and some type of management plan we can
8 all agree with.

9
10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more questions,
11 Council?

12
13 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman?

14
15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary?

16
17 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik). Back on the --
18 we're always reminded of saving fish for our children. And
19 at the same time this group has expressed time and time
20 again about Area M. What's happening out there? And we're
21 constantly hit upon, think of your children, think of your
22 children, but out there they go out for how many years to
23 -- after they spawn, they go out for how many years?
24 Always the same thing. Are we -- we're suffering and
25 somebody else is reaping from our suffrage. And I think we
26 need to -- this group needs to hear what's happening in
27 Area M, and if you have that authority, I would appreciate
28 it if you try your best to accommodate us rather than them.
29 Doy.

30
31 MR. MALLARD: I hear you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mike Savage.

34
35 MR. SAVAGE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In
36 the early 70s I used to work for the cannery in Bristol Bay
37 area. The amount of fish they get around that area, that
38 one cannery took more fish than we took here in the
39 Kuskokwim and the Yukon River in one period. I seen bins.
40 I mean, those bins are big, you know. And if it's going to
41 effect us, they're the ones that are affecting us. We --
42 the people in both Kuskokwim and the Yukon River, they just
43 take not only to survive from the end of the fishing season
44 to the opening of the next season when they come back in.
45 That's what's got to be looked at, something -- you know,
46 Area M's got to -- if they're going to make any decisions
47 there, they should come to us first, to either the
48 Kuskokwim and the Yukon River.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Hanson?

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1 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr Chairman.
2 Yeah, Monty, I hate t keep pounding on this one. Last year
3 I did it, I pounded you and Tom Kron and the whole yards of
4 you federal and state people. I think the federal managers
5 and the state managers are doing the work just the
6 opposite.

7
8 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

9
10 MR. HANSON: They're looking at the people
11 that fish on the Yukon, they're looking at the people that
12 fish on the Kuskokwim, they're the ones that are taking all
13 the fish. I think that's wrong. They're supposed to
14 reverse their minds. Even if you close the Yukon next
15 summer, or the Kuskokwim, nobody fishes, nobody subsists,
16 you still are not going to get back the salmon into the
17 spawning streams. I've stressed this last year, year
18 before. You have to go outside the terminal areas if you
19 want to close the fisheries, not on the Yukon, because the
20 Yukon is always closed, the Kuskokwim is always closed for
21 commercial. For subsistence, yeah, whatever little that
22 comes in, the people take for subsistence. We have to go
23 outside the terminal areas, and I think you know, Monty,
24 Tom knows. He's -- I've been hammering on him for a long
25 time, Monty. Go out there and get those fleets out there
26 rather than the terminal area being closed for subsistence
27 and commercial. Because those fish have to come out --
28 come back from the ocean into the terminal streams to
29 spawn. And if the fish don't come back to the terminal
30 streams, we're not going to have escapement.

31
32 MR. MALLARD: Mr. Chair. Your comments,
33 John, are duly noted. I think at times possibly we forget
34 there are certain limitations to our authorities. All the
35 state and the federal government can do is manage what
36 comes to the mouth of the river and upstream from there,
37 and there's very little authority that we have on the high
38 seas. I think your concerns should be expressed to the
39 National Marine Fisheries Service, and to those authorities
40 that control that. But as far as this group is concerned,
41 as far as I'm concerned, not -- let's just say what I'm
42 limited to, is once the fish reach the mouth of the river.
43 And I guess it's unfortunate that I can't go out there and
44 control the Russians and control the Japanese and control
45 Area M, but that's much bigger than what we are. But I
46 think you need to keep expressing that concern, can't let
47 it drop.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: So where do we go to get some
50 action?

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Federal.

2

3 MR. MALLARD: I'll ask the group. Does
4 anyone have an answer to that? Where do we go?

5

6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: North Pacific
7 Fisheries Management Council.

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Carl Jack, you want to
10 say something before.....

11

12 MR. JACK: Yeah. Just from my -- yeah,
13 Carl Jack, native liaison, Office of Subsistence
14 Management. Just from observation, my observations, you
15 know, when you look at the Area M and the terminal
16 fisheries here, that the federal really doesn't have any
17 authority out there. It's a state-managed fishery in Area
18 M. So the only time that the federal would be able to come
19 into the picture is if it exercises what they call
20 extraterritoriality, and that really has not been exercised
21 to date.

22

23 When I look at what happened at the recent
24 State Board of Fish meeting, one thing that happened was a
25 formation of the -- what they call AYK coalition involving
26 Bristol Bay, AVCP, Kawerak area, and Interior. And I would
27 -- if I don't -- if it was -- if it wasn't for that
28 coalition, I don't think we would have seen the
29 restrictions we have, you know, what happened at the recent
30 Board meeting. So the -- there's also two federal agencies
31 involved in this. One is, you know, insofar as subsistence
32 management, you know, the Office of Subsistence Management
33 has that responsibility, while the high seas fisheries are
34 under the management of the North Pacific Fisheries
35 Management Council. So those two have to be looked at, and
36 I think for -- if there's a -- one of the options, and this
37 is from personal observations is to work through the AYK
38 coalition to establish a strategic comprehensive plan that
39 would involve Bristol Bay, the Norton Sound, this region,
40 including the upriver Yukon area for the purpose of
41 enhancing or -- the depleting stocks in question. So
42 that's one thing that I see that is one of the possible
43 options to look at, and AYK recently -- AYK coalition
44 recently submitted a proposal under the OSM program, and
45 that is to explore the migratory route of the salmon in
46 question. It has a very big price tag of over \$2 million
47 for the comprehensive study. It's my understanding that
48 the -- that coalition is taking the -- also taking the
49 package to Senator Stevens for them to -- they are trying
50 to get monies for that -- for that comprehensive study.

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1 And they have submitted the same proposal to OSM to be
2 funded under FIS program. Thank you.

3
4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Carl.

5
6 MR. HANSON: Carl, (In Yup'ik). Yeah,
7 thanks, Mr. Chairman. (In Yup'ik)

8
9 INTERPRETER: This government, federal
10 government, our federal government -- the federal
11 government has jurisdiction over the Area M. I'd like to
12 -- he'd like to say a comment about that government --
13 those people that are fishing in the Area M, they are under
14 state jurisdiction. Three miles, state is taking care of
15 that portion. That's the state's responsibility to oversee
16 the activity in that Area M. The only federal jurisdiction
17 that -- outside of the three mile. He had been on the Fish
18 Board for some time, and relating to the fisheries and the
19 high seas. Canada, Russia, relating to those fisheries.
20 This federal government of ours, outside of the Area M is
21 the responsibility of the federal government. The
22 fishermen and the high seas fisheries are controls -- be
23 controlled by the federal government. Uh-huh. And that
24 Area is -- has no responsibility on what they decide in
25 Area M, only in the high seas. NMFS, I don't know what
26 that is. NMFS. That's the other agency that is control of
27 the high seas fisheries. They are just like this Fish and
28 Game people. And they should find out where the fish are
29 heading. The -- before Carl sat down, he told Monty why
30 haven't you target Yukon and Kuskokwim -- if you have to
31 shut down the fisheries in Yukon and Kuskokwim why have --
32 why do we have to be targeted first? I think the Area M
33 should be targeted first, and the fisheries around them.
34 Our fisheries, those fish that come into the fishery -- the
35 fish that come into the Yukon and Kuskokwim perhaps through
36 the -- we are not to blame for depleting those runs. We
37 are -- when we are the targeted people. I just wanted to
38 point out that to you. If I am wrong, Carl perhaps will
39 correct me on that.

40
41 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hanson.

42
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Carl.

44
45 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)

46
47 INTERPRETER: The statement you have made
48 is a very true sense that we the government and state are
49 running the -- National Fisheries Service, those high seas
50 fisheries. And they are not -- the fishery are not alone

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1 that they handle, but marine mammals as well.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Vince?

4

5 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, early this
6 summer Craig Fleener requested that representatives of the
7 three councils go to the National -- I mean -- yeah,
8 National Pacific.....

9

10 MR. FLEENER: North Pacific.....

11

12 MR. MATTHEWS: North American.....

13

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: North Pacific.

15

16 MR. FLEENER:Management Council.

17

18 MR. MATTHEWS: North Pacific Fishery
19 Management Council. We weren't able to get John to go, and
20 I believe you were out at camp. Mr. Fleener went, Craig
21 Fleener went, and Mickey Stickman of Nulato went to that
22 meeting and they presented your three resolutions from your
23 joint meeting over a year ago where we had the resolutions
24 addressing hatcheries, requesting a moratorium on fisheries
25 to see if there's any relationship between the fish that
26 they catch, and the ones in the river, and I can't remember
27 the other resolution. But it might be wise now to
28 encourage Craig to share some of his comments from being at
29 that meeting since they were the ones that were managing
30 the open seas fisheries, so -- anyway, I just wanted to let
31 you know that there was some effort, and maybe he'd like to
32 share some comments on that. And I'm -- then after that I
33 can share the comments that Mickey Stickman shared with me.

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: You've got a question?

36

37 MR. ANDREWS: (In Yup'ik)

38

39 INTERPRETER: He'd like to ask if any --
40 what John has stated earlier.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

43

44 MR. ANDREWS: Yeah. Quyana, Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

47

48 MR. ANDREWS: Edward. (In Yup'ik)

49

50 INTERPRETER: Why did I dare to ask.

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1 MR. EDWARDS: My name is Edward Andrews.
2 I'm from Alakanuk. (In Yup'ik)

3
4 INTERPRETER: Edward Andrews. He's from
5 Alakanuk. I'll state my statement in native. If I'm
6 wrong, you can correct me, and -- the fisheries in Area M
7 they catch a lot of different species of salmon. The chum
8 salmon that they talk about, we've heard that they have
9 quota, 300,000. Up to 300,000. When they reach their
10 quota, then they change over to another species, and then
11 that, according to what he's heard, some of the by-catches
12 or incidental catches are thrown back into the ocean,
13 trying to harvest the targeted salmon. And a lot of the --
14 when they don't reach the quota, a lot of the different
15 species are thrown back into the ocean. We -- the
16 fishermen around here do not throw away any incidental
17 catches of any kind. And we don't even harvest 300,000 all
18 the way up from the mouth of the Yukon all the way up to
19 the spawning areas. That's all I wanted to add. Perhaps
20 if I didn't make that clear statement, perhaps somebody can
21 make a correction on that.

22
23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

24
25 MR. L. WILDE: I have one question for
26 Monty.

27
28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I know. Yeah.

29
30 MR. L. WILDE: Monty, just a yes or no, is
31 this protocol part of the co-management agreement between
32 the two agencies?

33
34 MR. MALLARD: Which is.....

35
36 MR. L. WILDE: Is this part of that co-
37 management, this protocol?

38
39 MR. MALLARD: This protocol? Yes.

40
41 MR. L. WILDE: Is that part of the co-
42 management? Does that go into one of the protocols that
43 will be going into the co-management agreement?

44
45 MR. MALLARD: I guess I misunderstand. I
46 think the protocol.....

47
48 MR. L. WILDE: Between Fish and Wildlife
49 and -- didn't Fish and Wildlife and Fish and Game sign a
50 co-management agreement or is that still up in the air?

00220

1 MR. MALLARD: We haven't signed anything at
2 present.

3
4 MR. L. WILDE: You have not?

5
6 MR. MALLARD: And the protocol I think is
7 designed to be a co-management document.

8
9 MR. L. WILDE: Okay. That's all I have.

10
11 MR. MALLARD: It wasn't a yes or no,
12 but.....

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: Okay.

15
16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead. Your
17 name?

18
19 MR. OKITKUN: Jack Okitkun, Junior. My
20 question is for the federal and the state, I'd like to find
21 out when the federal relinquish their ability to enforce
22 fishing lodge to the state, because, you know, we all know
23 that the federal government has more authority than the
24 state has. Since when did the federal relinquish their
25 powers to the state?

26
27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Monty?

28
29 MR. MALLARD: I don't think there's been a
30 relinquishing of, quote/unquote, powers by either side. I
31 think we need to realize that on both sides it's going to
32 have to be a balance, and it's going to take a lot of
33 cooperation, development of proposals from both sides that
34 can be joined together, so that preseason we can enter the
35 season as partners with you, with the state, and the
36 federal government. I think that the power that you're
37 alluding to is still there, but I don't think we want to
38 try to use that mechanism in-season.

39
40 MR. OKITKUN: They were talking about Area
41 M. Who has jurisdiction over Area M? Does the state or
42 the federal have?

43
44 MR. MALLARD: The state and the National
45 Marine Fisheries Service.

46
47 MR. OKITKUN: Thanks.

48
49 MR. MALLARD: And -- okay. Like Carl
50 brought up, it would take an effort from you all to request

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1 extraterritorial jurisdiction over state waters. That is a
2 process that would have to go to the Secretary of the
3 Interior, and it's a very -- would be a very time consuming
4 decisionmaking process.

5
6 MR. L. WILDE: But it can be done.

7
8 MS. GREGORY: It can be done.
9 Extraterritorial.

10
11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Anything should be
12 done.

13
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Monty, Tom.

15
16 MR. MALLARD: I relinquish.

17
18 MR. KRON: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to
19 provide some historical background here on changes that I
20 think the fishermen on the Yukon River have generated.
21 There was a Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association
22 request to address chum salmon bycatch in the trawl fishery
23 back after the 1993 season, which I'm sure all of you
24 remember was a very bad season. There were subsistence
25 restrictions that year. In 1994, the North Pacific Fishery
26 Management Council for the first time in response to the
27 YRDFA request put in a chum bycatch provision in the trawl
28 fishery. Then in 1998, a very poor king salmon season on
29 the Yukon River. That winter, after that season, the North
30 Pacific Fishery Management Council based again on a YRDFA
31 request, implemented a king salmon bycatch provisions in
32 the trawl fishery, and a stepped up plan for reducing
33 chinook salmon bycatch. So again there have been some
34 changes made. And I know last summer again there was a
35 push to have the North Pacific Council look at bycatch
36 again to address the concerns of people on these rivers.
37 Thank you.

38
39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Craig?

40
41 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Craig
42 Fleener, Fort Yukon. Although it's a nice gesture that
43 this North Pacific outfit has made, I can't feel sorry for
44 them losing their ability to commercial fish and to waste
45 salmon when those of us on the Yukon and some of you on the
46 Kuskokwim have to go without feeding your families, and us
47 have to go without feeding our families, so they can waste.
48 Their wastefulness and us being forced to give up the
49 ability to fish for our families, I don't think it's any
50 comparison. And I like the idea of what Harry and John

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1 brought up just a few minutes ago, and that is to try more
2 enforcement, or to try to cut back on fishing and cut back
3 on waste out on the ocean before we're cut back. You know,
4 we -- why should we continue to have to give things up when
5 they continue to catch fish to sell? And it's really weird
6 to me that -- I think the state has, you know, a similar
7 type of system where we're supposed to be managing for
8 escapement, then managing for subsistence, and then
9 managing for commercial. But commercial take is higher
10 than subsistence take, and it's higher than escapement, so
11 in my opinion, I think the state has been management for
12 commercial, and not managing for escapement and not
13 managing for subsistence. As long as the Yukon River
14 continues to have returns of seven percent, and the state
15 and the federal government's not willing to do what's
16 necessary to get that escapement up, you know, I think that
17 they're just -- I think that they're playing games with us
18 by telling us that we need to cut back, but we're -- we're
19 not going to stop where the majority of the fish is being
20 taken and where the majority's being wasted.

21
22 And everybody's wondering where we send --
23 where do we -- whose door do we knock on to get some
24 changes made? I think one effort would be by that
25 resolution, 01-2001 and I know that John Hanson and I were
26 talking during a break a little while ago about you making
27 the wording a little bit more strong and changing Area M to
28 a larger area, and John would have to go into that more,
29 but I think it would be better to change it to this larger
30 area, and we've got the letter -- I think we have it going
31 to Frank Rue and to.....

32
33 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mitch Demientieff.
34

35 MR. FLEENER: Mitch Demientieff. I think
36 we need to go up a lot higher. I think we should go to the
37 Secretary of Interior with the letter. I think we should
38 go to the congressional delegation, and I think we should
39 send a copy to the President. In my opinion, this is --
40 it's a disaster, you know. We've been calling it a
41 disaster. You know, the people in the upper Yukon River,
42 the Yukon Flats and places all the way up the river, we've
43 not been able to meet subsistence needs for years. And
44 like I said, subsistence returns are down to seven percent,
45 and if the returns don't get up, it's going to be a
46 disaster for years and years to come. And I think that's a
47 disaster that needs to be addressed at the highest levels,
48 and I would encourage you to change that resolution, and to
49 send it as far up as it can go. We're not going to get
50 anything done by knocking on doors down here.

00223

1 We've been knocking on doors down here for
2 years, and what's gotten accomplished? I mean, they've
3 decreased the amount of bycatch a little bit, but we're
4 still wasting hundreds of thousands of fish. You know, as
5 long as people are willing to throw away hundreds of
6 thousands of fish and tell us to stop fishing, I don't
7 think we're doing enough. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8
9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I think it's time
10 for me to say something concerning fish. Tom and Monty,
11 you know that I've been in negotiation for -- since 1985.
12 U.S. and Canada. It get to where today I feel that I'm
13 cheating my own people. We've been putting lot of fish up
14 there, what you call spawning stream for rebuilding. King
15 salmon and chum. Where all those fish goes? I don't know.
16 There's no improvement whatsoever in the Yukon. Only going
17 down, down, down. It get to where our subsistence people
18 try to subsist in the streams, not in the Yukon I never
19 dream of this that I would see the people that I represent
20 goes into spawning stream and try to get their subsistence,
21 and try to get something for their table, while I am
22 pumping the fish and kings and chums up through the
23 Canadians. Still they do right now. These boards still
24 ask, they want to put some fish in the spawning stream.
25 I'd like to ask, maybe Tom and Monty here, where all that
26 fish go? Because we start putting the fish in the spawning
27 stream and the Canadians start from 1986. If there's any
28 question or answer for that? Tom or Monty, one of you?

29
30 MR. MALLARD: I'll really briefly comment.
31 It's a very difficult question in a lot of respects, but
32 I'd still like to impress upon the group that for every two
33 fish that come out of -- into your nets, one of those
34 originated in Canada. It's more -- that spawning stock is
35 more important to you than the Koyukuk River, Tanana River,
36 Andreafsky, the Anvik. And it's just as important as all
37 those systems put together. It's very important that in
38 some manner we protect those Canadian stocks for your own
39 fishing.

40
41 As far as where the fish go, on the lower
42 rivers, you're all extremely good fishermen. You've fished
43 -- you and your families have fished here for centuries,
44 and quite honestly you know where all the fish are at. You
45 have the first shot at fish when they come into the river.
46 You know the little areas where they hold, and put in your
47 set nets, where to drift. As they move upstream, they turn
48 off -- a few of them turn off at the Andreafsky, the Anvik,
49 the Koyukuk, the Tanana. There's other people harvest them
50 all along the way, and they -- it may always appear to be a

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1 lot of fish in the lower river, mainly because you have
2 first access to them. But it doesn't necessarily mean that
3 every year is the same. What can be a very average year, a
4 very poor year, may look to be very similar to the
5 fisherman in the lower river.

6
7 We had the same type of situation last year
8 with fall chums. It was a very poor year, people reporting
9 very poor fall chum runs all up along the river. The
10 escapement projects were showing very poor fall chum runs.
11 However, at the rapids, which is above Tanana, they were
12 catching a lot of fish. And they just said that Pilot
13 Station sonar is wrong. All the -- there's plenty of fish,
14 fall chums in the river. However the water level was up.
15 It pushed the fish closer to the bank. And they were being
16 very successful with their fishwheels. It doesn't mean
17 there's a lot of fish, it's just a lot of conditions. In
18 your case, you're very good fishermen with centuries of
19 experience.

20
21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Tom.

22
23 MR. KRON: You know, I think Monty brought
24 up a lot of good points here, and I think you're right,
25 Harry, the --in the parent years for the returns we've had,
26 you know, '98, '99, and 2000, the chinook salmon
27 escapements were good. You know, the fishermen here
28 working with the Department, you know, have been successful
29 in providing the desired escapements in Canada. And again
30 to reinforce what Monty was saying, that Canadian
31 production produces about half of the kings in most years
32 that are taken by you, by subsistence and commercial
33 fishermen here on the Yukon River, so those -- historically
34 those fish are very important to Alaskans.

35
36 We don't -- I don't think any of us know
37 what happened. We suspect that there have been some
38 problems out in the marine environment. You know, I think
39 particularly in '98 when the fish came in, there were
40 problems. There were lots of lamprey bites. Processors
41 talked about big heads, skinny fish. We've checked the
42 weights on the fish in '98 and '99, and it looks like they
43 were the lowest on record in '98, second lowest on record
44 in '99. So some indications that something changed out in
45 the marine environment. I know a number of you have sat in
46 on various presentations where they talked about things
47 like the brand new fokalithafor (ph) blooms out in the
48 Bering Sea, milky water for, you know, hundreds of square
49 miles. A lot of changes. And again I don't think any of
50 us have a real good understanding of what all has been

00225

1 going on here, but it definitely generates a lot of
2 concern, you know, it's impacting people's lives. It's
3 impacting your lives. We're not making escapements in a
4 number of area of the drainage, and it's generating a lot
5 of concern.

6
7 And I don't think we have, Monty and I or
8 Tom Vania don't have the answers either. We need to work
9 with the public to come up with an approach that makes the
10 most sense long term to figure out how to move on from here
11 and rebuild back to what we've had historically. Thanks.

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Maybe we go far enough
14 up that. We could go now to another agenda -- I mean on
15 another agenda. Most important thing for lower Yukon.
16 Anna, go ahead, and I give you this chance before we get
17 into another agenda on agenda.

18
19 MS. KAMKOFF: (In Yup'ik) My name is --
20 I'm sorry, my name is Anna Kamkoff of Kotlik. (In Yup'ik)

21
22 INTERPRETER: Anna Kamkoff. The subject is
23 salmon. When the fish were plenty for a short time, three
24 or four years ago, you know, the Fish and Wildlife Service
25 they had the, Peter Mike knows, when they got a lot of
26 fish. And that there were a lot of fish. They didn't give
27 them to the people. They put them right back into the
28 river. Test fisheries she thinks she's talking about.
29 Last summer subsistence and commercial, they didn't catch
30 nothing, but they all got into the hole that -- she knows
31 that when the first batch of fish came, they were plenty,
32 but they all were let pass, and after that there were not
33 -- hardly any runs. But poor fishermen that had prepared
34 for those salmons were all in the hole instead.

35
36 MS. KAMKOFF: And they're written in your
37 head. (In Yup'ik)

38
39 INTERPRETER: And the old -- she's talking
40 about the old history of how.....

41
42 MS. KAMKOFF: Our ancestors' rules and laws
43 right up in your head. (In Yup'ik)

44
45 INTERPRETER: Rules and laws of the old
46 ancestral people. It seems like the old laws of the
47 natives of the old age is violation of the activities that
48 are going on today. We all know that when the elder
49 speaks, why you -- I used to sit down and listen. And a
50 lot of times my father and my grandfather, they used to

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1 take me to the Hizaguluk (ph), because they wished that I
2 was a man. They let me listen to the elders speak in the
3 Hizlak (ph). And saying that the people should not argue
4 over salmon or whatever species they're talking about.
5 Whenever some species is being argued about,.....

6
7 MS. KAMKOFF: Fish and Wildlife meetings
8 here and there. (In Yup'ik)

9
10 INTERPRETER:they go down in number,
11 but they don't identify whatever subsistence food that
12 they're talking about. Whenever resources are being argued
13 about, they are less -- they become less and less. When --
14 as soon as the fish were being argued about, the decline
15 began. And argue also the geese, where all are declining
16 when the argument began on those species.

17
18 MS. KAMKOFF: That's what's happening. (In
19 Yup'ik)

20
21 INTERPRETER: It is against the law of the
22 old people not ever to argue about any sort of species of
23 our lands, because those resources are not the -- owned by
24 anyone. They are the gifts of God. He wishes to the man
25 who has created them will see to it that they decline.
26 That's all I have, because you all know that, I'll say that
27 much.

28
29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana. Hanson.

30
31 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
32 Quyana, Anna. (In Yup'ik)

33
34 INTERPRETER: We all know what you have
35 stated down, explained it. He himself knows that very
36 much. But our -- the state fisheries workers are trying to
37 control all of the resources that are bound for our areas
38 are being targeted, and we -- the species targets are
39 being.....

40
41 MS. KAMKOFF: (In Yup'ik)

42
43 MR. HANSON: (In Yup'ik)

44
45 INTERPRETER: All the direction that our
46 ancestral people have given us is ignored by our
47 counterparts of the state workers. So it is true that the
48 resources -- the target of the state fisheries workers,
49 their idea is to have the increase in the number of
50 species. That's the only target they have.

00227

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I think we go far
2 enough here. We -- we're in now, the next two agendas are
3 very important. It's lower Yukon River management for
4 2001, also the other is Kuskokwim River management for
5 2001. They're -- both of those are very important. Tom
6 Kron is here and one of you guys could go over, because you
7 will be hearing some people that testifying or even want to
8 know how the fishing's going to be for this summer.

9
10 MR. KRON: Mr. Chair, just a moment, but I
11 think Tom Vania will be presenting the outlook for 2001, is
12 that correct?

13
14 MR. VANIA: Commercial outlook.

15
16 MR. KRON: Commercial outlook.

17
18 MR. VANIA: But you want to do this
19 (indiscernible) first?

20
21 (Whispered conversation (In Yup'ik))

22
23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Monty.

24
25 MR. MALLARD: All right. Mr. Chair, if
26 it's permissible, we'll discuss the Yukon River commercial
27 outlook for 2001 for the Lower Yukon, or for the Yukon
28 River, and then after we finish that, we can briefly
29 discuss what kind of ramifications this might have for
30 subsistence fishing, followed by the Kuskokwim preseason.
31 If that's the route you want to take? Lower Yukon first?

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: This agenda here it
34 says Lower Yukon fisherman management for 19 -- I mean,
35 2001.

36
37 MR. MALLARD: All right.

38
39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: That's for this summer.

40
41 MR. MALLARD: We'll allow Tom Vania from
42 ADF&G to present the first portion of this, please, Mr.
43 Chair?

44
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I don't know, it says
46 here Tom Kron and Tom what?

47
48 MR. HANSON: Tom Vania.

49
50 MS. GREGORY: Tom Vania and Tom Kron.

00228

1 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman?

2
3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

4
5 MR. NICK: I have a comment -- I would like
6 to comment as the new council coordinator for the
7 presenters, please let us know what you're going to present
8 during the meetings, especially in the future meeting in
9 fall, so we will know exactly what to put on the agenda,
10 instead of telling us we might go or we might not go. We
11 might present or we might present that, instead of telling
12 us, please be specific and tell us exactly specific item
13 you will present to the Council, so that a chair person,
14 even including the Council, including myself, we will not
15 be confused as to who is going to be presenting what
16 subject. I realize that our OSM management staff did what
17 they can to put the -- to assist us put the agenda items
18 together, but when I started to call the presenters as to
19 what they were going to be presenting, there was iffy
20 feedback to me, whether or not if they're to come, or maybe
21 they might not come. So what we need in order to even to
22 speed up the Council business, you know, the meetings, and
23 in order for everybody to comment on subjects that need to
24 be discussed during the meetings, we need specific items
25 and names that presenters will present during the meetings.

26
27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So you guys going to
28 present this lower Yukon, and I think it's very important
29 right now is how we're going to subsist this summer. My
30 understanding that 1999 federal take over lower Yukon water
31 or waters adjacent to land, that means the lower Yukon is
32 one of them.

33
34 MR. MALLARD: That's correct, Mr. Chair.
35 And at this time if we can, we'll present you with the
36 outlook for the commercial season, this next year, and then
37 I'll present to you some options for subsistence fishing
38 schedule for your discussion, for review.

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

41
42 MR. MALLARD: I'd call.....

43
44 MS. GREGORY: So what are we talking about?

45
46 MR. MALLARD: The commercial fishing
47 outlook for this coming season, 2001.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, (In Yup'ik).
50 Taking notes is hard for me, because we're changing from

00229

1 one item to another.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I try to follow
4 this agenda. It says here salmon management working group,
5 Robert Nick. Somebody put it here, not here.

6

7 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Charles was at the
8 meeting, Mr Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Well, someone should
11 have tell me already long ago. Go ahead and we'll take
12 that then.

13

14 MS. GREGORY: Item number 3?

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Item number 3. We give
17 Monty a rest for a while.

18

19 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman?

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

22

23 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
24 was at salmon management working group meeting on Monday on
25 my way over to Kotlik. We had the meeting that evening,
26 but there was no quorum. The salmon management working
27 group did not have a quorum at that evening. But there was
28 a few members there, and Charlie Berge was there and he
29 reported what the Board of Fish adopted in Anchorage at
30 their meeting for the fish. And that he reported -- he --
31 Charlie reported that there was not going to be commercial
32 fishing in June and July on Kuskokwim. Over in Kuskokwim
33 unless there's a good return on salmon. And there was a
34 report also for subsistence fishing, that there will be
35 four consecutive days of subsistence fishing there on
36 Kuskokwim in June and July. And closed for three days. So
37 -- but there was no action on what I just mentioned a while
38 ago, no action by working group to set the dates for
39 subsistence fishing, and they wanted to have another
40 meeting this week. Or, I'm sorry, next week or as early as
41 possible to talk about Kuskokwim fishing, to set the times
42 for subsistence fishing over there.

43

44 And another thing that was mentioned was
45 gear restrictions, that they were going to have six inches
46 or less. And some items that they were going to talk about
47 they -- the chair didn't want to talk or have a meeting
48 that evening very long because they did not have a quorum.
49 So they will have -- they will try to have another salmon
50 management working group meeting on the call of the chair

00230

1 or when they think they will have a quorum. And Mike was
2 also there, so the state and Jerry. So if I miss something
3 there, you guys can bring it up. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4
5 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I was.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

8
9 MS. GREGORY: I was there as a reporter and
10 I covered the meeting, and one of the people from the --
11 from villages were there, and Mr. Brown from Eek relayed a
12 message from their elders that if you opened up commercial
13 -- if you opened the subsistence fishing, you do it during
14 the time when the fish will dry, and like he said, after
15 4th of July, foul weather comes, and we don't want to ruin
16 our food, so he told the working group to remember that.
17 And also a lot of people preferred Thursday to Saturday, or
18 Tuesday to Saturday opening.

19
20 MR. CHARLES: Sunday. Sunday
21 (indiscernible), yeah.

22
23 MS. GREGORY: Including Saturday, because
24 some of the people in our area like to have their elders
25 come with their children to, you know, work with them. (In
26 Yup'ik)

27
28 INTERPRETER: She's just translating what
29 she just said earlier.

30
31 MS. GREGORY: We're in that -- we're
32 starting to wake up that our elders are important for the
33 survival of our grandchildren, to try and bridge the gap.
34 (In Yup'ik) They talked a little bit about set netting.
35 If you open it one day and close it the next day, it's very
36 hard to get your gejuks (ph) out of your set net, so -- the
37 gear restriction they said wouldn't affect the set netting.
38 That was my understanding. If I'm wrong, correct me.
39 'Cause a lot of us set in the summertime to catch other
40 fresh water fish besides salmon. Doy.

41
42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any question or.....

43
44 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr Chairman.

45
46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Will you give us your
47 name, please?

48
49 MR. BERG: Jerry Berg with the subsistence
50 off -- Federal Subsistence Office in Anchorage. It was --

00231

1 James and Mary both gave good reports I think. In fact we
2 had as many council members at that meeting as they did
3 working group members, and we also had Ray Charles -- I
4 mean, Ray Collins from the McGrath, Western Interior
5 Council, and we also had Billy McCann attended that
6 meeting.

7
8 And the only thing I would add to their
9 report is that they did -- since they did not have a
10 quorum, they didn't take any action on any items. But one
11 item that they hope to take action on when they do have a
12 quorum, is whether they will allow membership from one
13 person from your council, and one person from the Western
14 Interior Council to sit on the working group as a voting
15 member, and they tried to do that, I think they had a
16 meeting last December, and we -- our council members were
17 not able to attend for one reason or another, and then they
18 also delayed again this time, because they didn't have a
19 quorum. But they do intend to vote on that to give your
20 council one voting member seat on that working group, and
21 then the Western Interior council one voting member seat.
22 And I think that will really help them attain a quorum in
23 the future, because our council members have been very
24 active on that working group in the past few years, and, of
25 course, Charles has been -- James Charles has been very
26 involved with that working group for many years.

27
28 The working group was primarily addressing
29 commercial fisheries in the past, but in the recent --
30 since we've had the declines in the salmon runs, they've
31 really focused more on subsistence issues, and it's really
32 the primary group on the Kuskokwim to address these issues,
33 so it's a very important working group, and I think our --
34 your council and the Western Interior Council should have
35 more of a voice here soon, as long as they give them
36 membership, which it does look favorable that they will.
37 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

38
39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Well, Tom, you've got
40 about 20 minutes to present your -- before your plane
41 arrives, so we'll give you that opportunity. Tom.

42
43 MR. KRON: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, again I
44 guess I'd recommend we go back to the Yukon. Again, I'd
45 recommend we start off with Tom Vania with his overview on
46 the outlook, since it's the state's outlook that we're
47 working from here. And then launch from there into a
48 discussion of subsistence issues, so if it would be okay,
49 we'd like to go with Tom Vania next.

50

00232

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Whichever the first.

2
3 MR. KRON: Okay. Thanks.

4
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

6
7 MR. TEELUK: (In Yup'ik)

8
9 INTERPRETER: When they -- when do we
10 discuss what we talked about yesterday?

11
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

13
14 INTERPRETER: Before they go, we'd like to
15 have you hear what they have to say.

16
17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

18
19 MR. VANIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, my
20 name is Tom Vania, I'm the area management biologist for
21 the summer season on the Yukon River. What Tom is handing
22 out to you, and there's some more of those copies in the
23 back for anybody who didn't get them. Just some bullet
24 points that we have for the salmon outlook for 2001, and
25 for those of you who were at the Board of Fish meeting, I
26 think it's pretty similar to what you saw there.

27
28 As we all know, typically the run is made
29 up of six-year-old fish, and we can get an idea of what's
30 going to come back in 2001 based on how many five-year-old
31 fish that we saw. With the chinook, that relationship
32 between the siblings, between what we see as five-year-olds
33 and what we can expect to see as six-year-olds is a really
34 good indicator. In the past we really relied on what the
35 parent year escapements were. If we had real good
36 escapements, we would expect very good returns. But as you
37 know, the last three years those returns haven't come back
38 as expected. We've had real poor production from those
39 parent year escapements, so we're relying more on what we
40 see on five-year-old fish coming -- that came back in the
41 year 2000. We had a dismal run of five-year-olds in the
42 year 2000. It doesn't bode well at all for this next year,
43 2001. We're expecting a very low run of six-year-old fish.

44
45 In 2001 season we're going to pay close
46 attention to the age composition of the fish as they enter
47 into the river. If we see what we saw in 2000, we saw a
48 lot of six-year-old fish. That wasn't supposed to happen,
49 we were supposed to see more five-year-olds to help support
50 a larger population of fish into the river. We were seeing

00233

1 about 70 percent six-year-old fish, which means there
2 weren't a lot of them. If we see that again this next
3 season, it's going to confirm what we're thinking, that is,
4 it's going to be another bad run.

5
6 Commercial outlook is for a harvest of
7 anywhere from zero to 20,000. And the reason why we have a
8 range on there is because we do manage in-season, we do
9 manage based on what comes back. And there's always
10 uncertainty involved in trying to guess as to what's coming
11 back. For a commercial harvest to take place, we're going
12 to have to see something very unexpected happen next
13 season. We're going to have to see a lot of five-year-old
14 fish come back. We're going to have to see very large
15 sustained pulses that last for two or three days that come
16 into the river. You know, as we've been seeing the last
17 few years, when a pulse comes into the river, it's only
18 lasting for one, maybe two tides, and then it's dropping
19 back down. That's -- we started seeing that in 1998, we
20 saw it somewhat in 1999, not as much because the run was
21 very late and very compact, but we did see it again in
22 2000. We had these short little pulses of fish that come
23 in, and that's a good indication to us that we have a weak
24 run that's developing here, so the possibility of a
25 commercial harvest last -- this next year is highly
26 unlikely. And what we're looking at rather than a
27 commercial fishery is a reduction in subsistence harvest.

28
29 We just now are starting to get numbers
30 back for what the subsistence harvest was in 2000, and it
31 appears to be about 75 percent of what the average harvest
32 was. It was about 37,000 total for subsistence harvest on
33 the river. And normally, you know, it's about 50,000 on
34 the river. Well, if the run comes back as bad as it did in
35 2000, we're looking to half -- reduce harvest by at least
36 50 percent for subsistence. We're looking at a total
37 harvest on the river of about 25,000 at the most. If the
38 run comes in where we're looking at very few five-year-old
39 fish, very few jacks coming in, we could be looking at less
40 of a harvest, and so we're looking at basing management
41 strategies on how to reduce that harvest.

42
43 You know, subsistence harvest of 37,000, we
44 ended up with 12 and a half thousand escapement into
45 Canada. As you know, that falls way short of 28,000. But
46 looking at this next season, the State is under no illusion
47 that we're going to get 28,000 into Canada. And we have
48 negotiations set for the end of March with Canada and we
49 are going to be going into that meeting with Canada saying
50 that it's unlikely we're going to have 28,000 in

00234

1 escapement, spawning escapement into Canada. We're pushing
2 more for the 18,000 level which was a stabilization goal as
3 you know for a number of years. 18,000 was good back then,
4 then they jumped up to a rebuilding goal of 28,000. Well,
5 the general consensus is that these stocks are not rebuilt,
6 and to have an escapement goal of 28,000 is not realistic,
7 and so the state is kind of looking towards the management
8 of the subsistence harvest next season based more on about
9 an 18,000 escapement level into Canada. So with that, I'll
10 kind of let it go to Monty as far as what the federal
11 government's looking at for doing for subsistence
12 management strategies for the season.

13
14 MS. GREGORY: I have a question. Is the
15 25,000 might be a subsistence harvest for the river, you
16 mean the entire United States side of the Yukon?

17
18 MR. VANIA: Yes.

19
20 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

21
22 MR. MALLARD: I'll just follow that up a
23 little bit. There's nothing that Tom said that I really
24 disagree with. I think we were all anticipating another
25 poor year, and that probably includes the people in this
26 room from what they've seen in the past two years. I guess
27 why I'm here today is what we as a group intend to do about
28 it, and what guidance you can provide. It's quite obvious
29 that the commercial fishing season is very unlikely as been
30 indicated. And subsistence fishing will have to be
31 intensely managed.

32
33 And I guess my questions to you as they
34 were last week to the Eastern and Western RACs is just what
35 in the world are we going to do to preserve these stocks?
36 Now, I get comments from Canadian elders, and I know some
37 of you have problems with that, but, you know, they say,
38 we'd just like to have one fish to eat. And some people up
39 in the upper portion of the river were unable to
40 subsistence fish at all last year, and quite honestly, it's
41 a matter that if we don't start providing opportunities for
42 everyone on the river, it's going to harm the lower river
43 fishermen even more than they're being harmed now. And I
44 really need your guidance of what we can do to provide fish
45 for every individual on the river, or at least give them a
46 chance. The reduction of subsistence fishing opportunity
47 will be spread along the whole river.

48
49 The State Board recently provided a new
50 subsistence fishing schedule for the various areas of the

00235

1 river. I can go through those, although it's still --
2 we're still working on a preseason plan. What was adopted
3 by the State Board is merely a recommendation for an
4 average year, a year where everyone can subsist quite
5 readily. Districts -- the coastal district, the Koyukuk
6 River drainage and subdistrict 5(d), it's upstream in the
7 Fort Yukon and Stevens Village area, seven days per week.
8 Districts 1/3, two 36-hour periods per week, and that
9 includes this area through here.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Tom -- I mean, Monty.

12

13 MR. MALLARD: Yes.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: That two 36-hours,
16 that's Y-1, 2 and 3, that's two 36-hour it's going to be
17 split in Y-1, 2 and 3? So much for Y-1, so much for Y-2,
18 so much for Y-3?

19

20 MR. MALLARD: That is why we're here today,
21 to try to discuss that. However, like I tried to indicate,
22 Harry, that -- or Mr. Chair, that there'll probably have to
23 be additional restrictions taken. And we're here to try to
24 determine what kind of restrictions we can take preseason
25 to provide for subsistence all the way upstream plus take
26 care of escapement. And when I talk about escapement, you
27 know, I have a legal responsibility to provide for that.
28 That's the number 1 issue that I have to be concerned
29 about. We're here just to -- for you to let me know what
30 you'd prefer and what's reasonable for you. For instance,
31 how many days per week does it take you to take care of
32 your subsistence needs?

33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I'm really concerned
35 about the elders. That's my concern. Some of the elders
36 don't have any -- no one to fish for, fish -- help them.
37 They've got to try to work on their own nets and all that.
38 Two 36-hour for lower Yukon is peanuts. It's nothing. Our
39 elders wouldn't even take that, because they wouldn't have
40 time in 36 hours. They -- right now they're all hard time
41 enough to try to get the few fish, and the younger people
42 are too busy trying to get a job, because there's no
43 commercial. You have to look at that. It's very important
44 that subsistence, it have to come first. We understand
45 that spawning streams are very important. I would have
46 never been here if I don't believe the people that I
47 represent should have something to eat when they need --
48 when they have to have it.

49

50 MR J. MIKE: My name's Joe Mike. Your

00236

1 schedule for subsistence, you have two 36-hours, and
2 another schedule that could be implemented just decrease in
3 fishing for subsistence. In Y-1. There's fishermen that
4 fish on the coast and depend on the tide. Maybe they fish
5 for only two hours when the tide comes in. When there's no
6 fish, there's no fish in that tide. Billy Teeluk knows
7 about it. So if this two 36 hours fishing for subsistence
8 in district one, they wouldn't use all the two 36 hours in
9 one week. They use only maybe four hours or more in one
10 week to go subsistence fishing. There's quite a few guys
11 that fish on the coast and depend on the tides, so quyana.

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Tom.

14
15 MR. KRON: I wanted I guess I wanted to I
16 think support what Tom Vania and Monty Mallard had said,
17 and I think most of all we're all trying to work together
18 to find out what the Regional Council members, the general
19 public, what their perspectives are on this. This is -- I
20 never would have guessed that the king run would go the
21 direction that it has. You know, we never would have
22 guessed that we'd be in the situation we were in last year
23 with king salmon subsistence restrictions. And again, all
24 indications are that it looks like this coming summer is
25 going to be bad as well. Now, we've got some time between
26 now and when the ice goes and the king salmon come in, and
27 again that's the reason we're here now, to talk to you to
28 seek your guidance. These are your fish. You know,
29 they're your kids' fish, your grand kids' fish, and I
30 think, you know, at this meeting, and think there's
31 a need for additional public meetings, you know, along the
32 river to talk about this, to figure out a plan that makes
33 sense that people, you know, have had, you know a lot of
34 input into, and feel as comfortable with as possible. So
35 again that's my general thoughts. I think again this is a
36 process we need to talk about it, figure out what we should
37 do, and I think that's the reason's everybody's here is to
38 try to work, you know, with this Council. It's a very
39 important process to work with you to come up with a plan.

40
41 And with that, again, I apologize, and I'm
42 going to have to leave. But thank you, and feel free to
43 call any time.

44
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Tom. Any
46 question from audience? Or from Council?

47
48 MR. BENDER: (Indiscernible) in that paper
49 it said two 36-hour periods a week? Does that stretch out
50 for the whole summer then, for all the fish or

00237

1 (indiscernible).

2

3 MR. MALLARD: That's something that hasn't
4 been determined yet.

5

6 MR. VANIA: The.....

7

8 MR. BENDER: But for right now, what you
9 have in your mind is that if we fish two 36-hour periods a
10 week, that will allow for enough escapement (indiscernible)
11 to get back before you can find out what's happened
12 (indiscernible) in the ocean?

13

14 MR. MALLARD: It's my opin.....

15

16 MR. BENDER: Is that you guys' thinking on
17 it?

18

19 MR. MALLARD: My opinion is the two 36-hour
20 periods a week will not provide for escapement.

21

22 MR. L. WILDE: Your opinion is that there
23 will not enough escapement even cutting down to two 36-hour
24 periods? Is that you said?

25

26 MR. MALLARD: That's what I said. I don't
27 know where we're going to go with it, but that's my
28 opinion, and we're here to try to obtain your thoughts on
29 how we provide for escapement.

30

31 MR. BENDER: Well, I've got a proposal here
32 to.....

33

34 COURT REPORTER: I'm having trouble hearing
35 you. You're not close enough to the microphone.

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

38

39 MR. BENDER: I've got -- we have to find
40 out what's going on and fix the problem, you know, because
41 what we're going here fighting over the remains of a corpse
42 or almost a corpse. So we need to solve the problem, where
43 it's happening at, and all I've heard is no information, so
44 here's the proposal you asked for. If you genetically map
45 the fish in their spawning areas, we'll know who's eating
46 what, and who's catching what real quick, even if we start
47 off small and get a little from here and a little up there,
48 and maybe we could fix this problem, because if we don't
49 fix the problem, it certainly doesn't look like it's
50 getting any better every year to me. So I submit this

00238

1 proposal that we get busy and find out what's going on and
2 fix it before we're back here the next year, the next year,
3 the next year, doing the same thing hoping we have enough
4 fish to eat.

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Monty, you guys have
7 the power to manage the fish by emergency order? I think
8 you guys been doing it, you mean this summer for
9 subsistence, you guys will not use the emergency order even
10 to the spawning stream, the fish not going into spawning
11 stream? What I mean is it seems to me that staff are
12 worried about the fish going into spawning stream, what
13 will happen to subsistence fishery down here. There's --
14 you know, Monty, that there's nothing that really we can do
15 even to our -- we are subsistence fisherman, we would like
16 to go out somehow fish, because it's very important for you
17 and for us and the spawning streams, and you guys are
18 managed by emergency order, just like last summer, but it
19 was too late, then after dropping the things down to almost
20 nothing, and move the subsistence fishermen's into spawning
21 stream, or give them reel and -- rod and reel. Show how --
22 want you to help you to work out those things.

23
24 MR. MALLARD: We just need for you to
25 provide us with some options to consider. I mean, it --
26 the options are for no fishing at all to three days a week,
27 two 36-hour periods. And quite honestly I think we have to
28 find some place in between there. People have to have some
29 fish to eat. We need to have some information from the
30 fishermen to validate the test fishery. Maybe we -- you
31 know as an option, we could start with fewer fishing, less
32 fishing at the beginning. If the fish come back in, we can
33 always relax it. It's easier to relax those schedules than
34 it is to restrict them further. There -- I mean, there's
35 several options, and just -- we're just here to pick your
36 brains and get some feedback, see what kind of options you
37 can pass by us, too.

38
39 MS. GREGORY: So what (indiscernible)
40 option -- what are your options you're thinking about?

41
42 MR. MALLARD: My option is to find some
43 medium in between the three days a week and nothing. It's a
44 matter of trying -- that's my preferred option. I don't --
45 last year, if we'd had no fishing at all, we would not have
46 made escapement through the entire basin. It was a very
47 weak escapement last year.

48
49 MR. VANIA: No, that's not true.

50

00239

1 MR. MALLARD: Well, there was a couple
2 systems there.....

3
4 MR. VANIA: That's not true.

5
6 MR. MALLARD: Okay. Well, if.....

7
8 MR. VANIA: If we had no fishing at all, we
9 would have made escapement into Canada, and we would have
10 made escapement into the majority of our streams. You're
11 talking 37,000 subsistence, and you had another 9,000 for
12 commercial, you -- yeah, you would have made escapement
13 into Canada.

14
15 MR. MALLARD: Okay.

16
17 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, I want to speak as
18 a subsistence user not as a regional council coordinator.
19 And I want to make.....

20
21 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

22
23 MR. NICK: My name is Alex Nick. I'm from
24 Russian Mission, and I want to speak as a subsistence user,
25 because I want to make on comment, and then ask -- I would
26 like to ask question to state representative.

27
28 I hear the report and I hear the -- both
29 federal and state report, and I've repeatedly heard these
30 during the Board of Fish presentations, and also
31 testimonies, answers to questions and I hear -- repeatedly
32 I hear that False Pass may have some impact on Yukon and
33 Kuskokwim fish, which is I'm certain at one point or
34 another, whether it's our fish that are going through
35 there, or maybe -- they may or may not be our fish. I have
36 children living in Russian Mission who fish for
37 subsistence. I have grandchildren living there which
38 depends on subsistence. I want to ask one question. The
39 question I want to ask as a subsistence user is, because
40 I'm from Yukon, the Lower Yukon as well, you're telling us,
41 you're telling me that this are our fish. You're telling
42 me that you want fish for my children for future stocks.
43 The question I want to ask, especially to state
44 representative, and as well as all the managers, is this,
45 the question I have is this, what right does someone from
46 Seattle, Washington have to throw away my fish that are
47 probably bound to my children rather than me giving up
48 fishing to let them pass upriver. Or even elders, pass
49 elders. That's the questions I've got.

50

00240

1 MR. VANIA: You know, this Area M issue was
2 a big part of the Board of Fish meeting this year, and as
3 you all know, an issue like Area M is going to be a long,
4 hard process, and it's going to be a battle that will not
5 go away. And I think this Board of Fish meeting, I think
6 the Yukon and Kuskokwim River and Bristol Bay made major
7 inroads in getting something accomplished. Area M took a
8 big hit. Okay. They're not happy at all about what
9 occurred to them down there. Okay. They went down to
10 three days a week, and that's not 24-hour periods either.
11 They can only fish during the daylight. I can't remember
12 how many hours a day it is, but only three of those days
13 during daylight hours they can fish. They did throw away
14 the chum cap and they did throw away their percent of
15 sockeye out of the Bristol Bay. And the Board of Fish --
16 part of the reason they threw away the chum cap was is to
17 take away the incentive for chum chucking. If there's no
18 cap, then they're not going to throw the chum away. So the
19 idea was that the Board of Fish went with was to curtail
20 their fishing so much that it's going to reduce the harvest
21 of chum. It's going to create big windows that fish will
22 pass through that area. They took a big hit. What's it's
23 going to do for the Yukon and Kuskokwim? Hopefully it's
24 going to allow fish to get past them in the river. That
25 was what this is designed to do. Will it work? Will it be
26 effective? I don't know. We'll have to wait and see.
27 Will we ever know? I don't know. It's tough to tell,
28 because it's hard to tell how many of the western Alaska
29 fish that they're taking. I mean, that's a real tough
30 answer. It's not an easy answer to get at.

31
32 You know, it's involving genetics.
33 Genetics can only say it's western Alaska. We can't
34 pinpoint to the Yukon. And we're really talking chum.
35 Chinook is even harder to get a handle on, you know. You
36 might have to do a tagging study is a lot of money, it's a
37 lot of effort, and it's really hard to get good answers
38 from it.

39
40 So I guess my message here is a lot of
41 inroads were made for this area. The Board of Fish
42 recognized the Area M problem, and they took a big step,
43 you know. Was it enough? I don't know. I don't know.
44 But it's a hard battle, and I'm not saying give up the
45 battle. I'm saying you guys continually have to do it, and
46 each year, each year you put in another proposal, you put
47 in another proposal. I mean, you guys have got to keep
48 fighting it. As a manager on the Yukon River, I can only
49 do so much. You know, like Monty said, we can only deal
50 with what comes back into the river. And looking at what

00241

1 we saw last year, the Canadian component into the river was
2 only about 37,000 fish, entire Canadian run. 37,000. If
3 we look at that same amount coming back, which isn't a lot,
4 you guys, if we look at the same amount, 37,000, you figure
5 we're talking only 18,000 for escapement into Canada.
6 Okay. That leaves about another 18,000 Canadian fish to
7 harvest. Well, you give Canada 4,000 for their
8 aboriginals, that leaves you guys with 14,000 Canadian.
9 You throw on about another 10,000, 11,000 Alaska fish that
10 you can harvest during that time, it leaves you about
11 25,000 chinook salmon that we expect to be able to harvest.
12 And that's where I come up with this number that we need to
13 reduce subsistence harvest by about half. That's just to
14 start with.

15
16 Now, if we see things coming in, and we see
17 indications that say it's worse, than 2000, and it could
18 be. We didn't think it could happen in '98, we didn't
19 think it could happen in '99. Certainly in 2000 we said it
20 can't be worse than '98, and it was. Then we need to cut
21 back a little more. And the Board of Fish when they came
22 up with this schedule, what they did is they wanted to
23 prevent mistakes happening in the lower river that affects
24 subsistence opportunity upriver, and that's where they came
25 back and they said, what do you guys need? What's a
26 reasonable amount of time you guys need to get your
27 subsistence harvest on a normal run? During a normal year.
28 And it came up with two 36-hour periods, if you have a
29 normal run and lots of fish, you guys should be able to get
30 your average subsistence harvest during that time.

31
32 Now, the question I had is can you hit your
33 normal average subsistence harvest with two 36-hour periods
34 when you've got a run like you did last year? That's a
35 question I have for you guys. I don't think you can. I
36 think if there's less fish in the river, and you guys only
37 have two 36-hour periods, you're not going to meet your
38 subsistence needs. So coming into this next season, if you
39 only fish two 36-hour periods, is that going to reduce you
40 by half, which our goal is? Is it? I don't know. If you
41 guys hit a pulse of fish, if a pulse of fish comes through
42 and you hit it on your 36-hour period, because you know
43 it's hit or miss. You have two 36-hour periods, the fish
44 might not be there. But if you hit a pulse of fish, you
45 guys might go rather well. Certainly you're not going to
46 meet all your needs with one 36-hour period if you hit a
47 pulse of fish. Some people might. Some people might not
48 have a lot of needs to be met. And they might get 30
49 kings, and that's -- maybe that's all they need.

50

00242

1 MR. L. WILDE: So how is your 36 hours
2 going to be managed? Are you going set the dates preseason
3 like say 36 hours on Monday and 36 hours on Friday? Or are
4 you going to.....

5
6 MR. VANIA: We were going to base it on the
7 commercial schedule, because you guys are familiar with
8 that. Y-1 would be a Monday/Thursday, Y-2 and Y-3 would be
9 a Sunday/Wednesday, and it would go for a 36-hour period.
10 We're trying to stay with days that everybody's familiar
11 with, no need putting on days that nobody's familiar with,
12 and trying to figure this all out.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: Is that going to be
15 preseason, or is that going to be in-season when you're
16 able to tell the amount of fish coming up the river?

17
18 MR. VANIA: The initial plan that we came
19 up with and that we discussed with the federal government
20 was the state is now stuck with two 36-hour periods. Okay.
21 That's going to be in regulation. Okay. So then we came
22 up with so how are we going to do the days, and we said,
23 okay, we're going to do it just like the commercial days,
24 stays on those days. Are we going to shift those days?
25 No. Okay. Our goal isn't -- our goal here isn't to go out
26 and catch the fish. We have to reduce the harvest. We
27 can't be shifting the days in the middle of the season.
28 You guys know now hard it is trying to get everybody
29 informed that, no, wait a minute, we're not going to fish
30 on Monday now, we're going to fish on a Wednesday. We
31 can't do it. There's just not enough people will be
32 informed in time to be able to shift that period. The
33 lower river is not as bad. You guys are really in tune to
34 finding out when the fisheries going to be. When you start
35 getting up to Y-3, Y-4, Y-5, it's impossible to get ahold
36 of everybody and tell them that the schedule has changed.
37 It can't happen. That was one of the questions we had in
38 Holy Cross is, what if there's a storm? What if there's
39 bad weather? What if there's high water with lots of
40 debris, and we can't fish? Or it really affects our
41 ability to go out and fish. Can you shift the period? I
42 don't see it happening. I think it would be very difficult
43 to do. We don't have information on who went out there and
44 fished during that period. You know, we don't have the
45 ability to get the word out to people and change it. It's
46 going to be a hit or miss. And on a normal year when
47 you've got lots of fish, it's probably not going to be a
48 problem. This next year when we don't have a lot of fish,
49 it's probably not going to be a problem, because our goal
50 is to reduce the harvest.

00243

1 MR. L. WILDE: Do you see -- pardon me, Mr.
2 Chairman, do you see an event where you would have to
3 designate or put a cap on the amount of subsistence fish
4 caught?

5
6 MR. VANIA: Well, how would we know,
7 Lester? We don't have harvest information. All we could
8 do with the lower river.....

9
10 MR. L. WILDE: Well, you do it with
11 commercial fishing.

12
13 MR. VANIA: But we get reports back within
14 24 hours what you guys caught.

15
16 MR. L. WILDE: You know, the same thing can
17 happen in subsistence fishing. You don't.....

18
19 MR. VANIA: You guys want subsistence fish
20 tickets? I don't see that happening.

21
22 MR. L. WILDE: Well, you know.....

23
24 MR. VANIA: It's very difficult to get
25 subsistence harvest information.

26
27 MR. L. WILDE: You know, it's hard for the
28 government to trust the words of the people. When I say I
29 catch five fish, that's the amount of fish I got. Why
30 should I need a harvest ticket?

31
32 MR. VANIA: Yeah.

33
34 MR. L. WILDE: Can't you take my word.....

35
36 MR. VANIA: Well, certainly.

37
38 MR. L. WILDE:that I caught five
39 fish?

40
41 MR. VANIA: Certainly, Lester, but we have
42 1400 fishing families in the river, and to get.....

43
44 MR. L. WILDE: And everybody has.....

45
46 MR. VANIA:1400 people to call
47 us.....

48
49 MR. L. WILDE:a VHF radio.

50

00244

1 MR. VANIA: If they would call us, then we
2 would have it and that would be great.

3
4 MR. L. WILDE: Well, all you have to do is
5 ask, and check with that, you know, you've had -- you've
6 asked the people before and they've responded.

7
8 MR. VANIA: Lower river is very good about
9 giving us the subsistence information. It's very good.

10
11 MR. L. WILDE: I don't mean to get up a
12 little bit, but.....

13
14 MR. VANIA: No.

15
16 MR. L. WILDE:you know what I'm
17 saying. There are means and methods that could be explored
18 as to how you can get that information back within in-
19 season from the subsistence people. I hear Harry and his
20 buddy and his buddy and his other buddy talking every day
21 on the radio.

22
23 MR. VANIA: Like I said, the lower river is
24 very good about getting the information in. And as time
25 goes on and with federal involvement, I think you're going
26 to see more and more effort being put into getting in-
27 season subsistence harvest information. But right now it's
28 very difficult, it's very costly.

29
30 MR. L. WILDE: So you really don't need the
31 harvest -- I mean, the ticket thing you know. It can be
32 done.

33
34 MR. ELACHIK: Yeah.

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Peter.

37
38 MR. ELACHIK: It's been so many years now
39 that we always hear subsistence is the priority in the
40 State of Alaska, but this afternoon, I'm beginning to hear
41 that subsistence is not a priority. I want the subsistence
42 to be a priority like it was in the past, because we've got
43 to survive. Thank you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

46
47 MR. HUNT: Big time. My name's Andrew
48 Hunt, Sr.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

00245

1 MR. HUNT: My name is Andrew Hunt, Sr., and
2 I was born down in Tenial (ph) down there. And now I'm 77
3 years old. I'd like to talk the rest in my Yup'ik. I
4 mean, I'll repeat -- just go ahead (In Yup'ik).

5
6 INTERPRETER: He want -- and subsistence is
7 more important when (indiscernible). Every summer he
8 subsistence fishes. I'm having a hard time understanding
9 his -- they handle fish from June, they usually will handle
10 fish, fish all summer, up to the falltime. Because they're
11 too busy. A lot time ago subsistence -- this subsistence
12 issue should not be lost, because it is the fish that we
13 eat.

14
15 MR. HUNT: That's our food. Always
16 fishing. (In Yup'ik) I grew up living with subsistence (In
17 Yup'ik)

18
19 INTERPRETER: From the time he grew up, the
20 fish was food, dried fish. The 36 hours was never stated
21 -- never a statement in those days.

22
23 MR. HUNT: They had no time (In Yup'ik).
24 My parents had no time, no subsistence -- they had all they
25 want. And when they'd get over two or 300 they'd pull
26 their nets out and cut fish. And when they'd cut fish,
27 they'd take all of it. They no throw the heads and the
28 tailbone. (In Yup'ik)

29
30 INTERPRETER: They fished all they wanted
31 if they wanted to. Maybe sometimes two or 300 in a season.
32 They don't even throw heads. They keep the bones, too, as
33 well. When they catch a fish, they cut it in a way, just
34 throw the guts away is all they do. And the bones are
35 kept, and even the heads are kept.

36
37 MR. HUNT: They never throw bones when they
38 cut meat. (In Yup'ik) king salmon. They'd take the heads
39 off and save the head, and cut them and dry them. They'd
40 cut the tail off (In Yup'ik).

41
42 INTERPRETER: Especially the king salmon.
43 They shave (ph) the head, open up and dry, (indiscernible),
44 the whole meat is -- and they leave some meat on the bone
45 and they hang the bone and meat and all. When the cut the
46 fish, that they remain -- the meat remain on the bone, and
47 they're hung to dry. That's how they handle fish when it
48 dries, and they don't leave too much meat on the skin,
49 because when you leave too much meat on the skin, it don't
50 properly dry. Therefore a lot of meat have to remain on

00246

1 the bone, and dry on the -- dry with the bone.

2

3 MR. HUNT: Who make the beast? God make
4 the beast, whatever it is, here on earth. He goes everyday
5 (indiscernible) fish. And they waste -- the fish that they
6 throw down in the ocean, (In Yup'ik).

7

8 INTERPRETER: I'm having a hard time
9 understanding him.

10

11 MR. HUNT: And the west wind (ph) they
12 bring them down. The wind will go back down there the
13 fish, the ocean down there. (In Yup'ik)

14

15 INTERPRETER: The fish when they're inbound
16 for their origin, they are controlled by the winds mainly.
17 When they have a lot of south winds, the water that drain
18 out of the Yukon River changes the course of the river,
19 Yukon River flow, water flow.

20

21 MR. HUNT: I didn't tell you a lie, it's
22 true. (In Yup'ik) I was fishing since I was -- I was
23 subsistence fishing down for -- I started in 1949, and
24 (indiscernible) 1986, always fishing. Somebody go down
25 (indiscernible) down south, some years not so good. When I
26 retired, I fish -- I always fish, start fishing. But since
27 last year, I (indiscernible) I go to fish again in
28 (indiscernible) and I fish (indiscernible). (In Yup'ik)

29

30 INTERPRETER: And the fish when they're
31 heading for the -- heading north for the Yukon, they are in
32 charge of the water that they originate from. When the
33 water of the Yukon that drains out to the ocean, when it
34 blows northward, that is a significant -- it is a
35 significant pinpoint that the fish are not going to be
36 here, because they're going to keep on heading upward, and
37 passing the Yukon River, because the Yukon River's water is
38 not out there. But the winds from the north is the typical
39 wind for the salmons assurance of returning back to the
40 Yukon.

41

42 MR. HUNT: Some years when (indiscernible)
43 is different, the Yukon. When the subsistence open, it
44 will be different, there's low water. Subsistence is
45 always now. We tomorrow maybe loose. (In Yup'ik)

46

47 INTERPRETER: Some years are different from
48 the others in the Yukon run. Low waters. We lose out a
49 lot. It isn't much, but I just wanted to bring that about.

50

00247

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Quyana. Yeah,
2 go ahead.

3
4 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Craig
5 Fleener, Fort Yukon. I just had a couple of questions for
6 Mr. Vania. I wonder if the -- well, we've been informed
7 and -- at the Eastern Interior that half of the first pulse
8 is -- or the first pulse is generally what heads into the
9 Yukon Flats I guess. I guess about half of them or
10 something like that, and I was wondering if you think that
11 two 36-hour periods, that that method of fishing down here
12 and however it's going to be done up through the river
13 would be enough to protect subsistence fishing for the
14 upper Yukon, and to protect escapement for the upper Yukon?

15
16 MR. VANIA: Well, when you talk about the
17 first pulse of fish, I mean, are you talking the largest
18 one that moves into the river? The first one that comes
19 in?

20
21 MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, I'm not exactly
22 sure that I'm talking about. All I've been told is the
23 first -- generally the first pulse is what heads into the
24 Yukon Flats. And my expertise in fisheries is nil, so.....

25
26 MR. VANIA: Looking at our information,
27 when we've seen the fish coming into the river, usually the
28 first quarter point, the first point where a quarter of the
29 fish have moved into the lower river is on average about
30 June 15th. Then the last two weeks of June 15th to June
31 30th, that's when the bulk of the fish are moving into the
32 river. That's where you're going to have your biggest
33 savings. So when we first looked at a subsistence fishing
34 schedule and what to do and where we're going to save fish,
35 the state's thoughts were from June 1st to June 15th,
36 there's not a lot of fish in the river. There's -- we
37 don't have much information to begin with, and until we get
38 about to that first quarter point, we're not sure how the
39 run is going to develop. We have -- we are starting to
40 obtain enough sample sizes where we can look at the age
41 composition, and we can get a little better handle on how
42 many six year olds are making up our sample. So we were
43 thinking that from June 1st to June 15th for the lower
44 river that we would go with the two 36-hour periods. They
45 might hit a pulse, they might not. It's hit or miss. We
46 don't know what they're going to catch because until the
47 fish come into the river, we don't know. They might not be
48 fishing. They might fish all those 36-hour periods, and
49 the first pulse of fish that comes in, they might miss it
50 completely, we don't know. That first big pulse of fish

00248

1 will not be hit by everybody, because there's now a fishing
2 schedule set by the Board of Fish, that's going to create
3 windows. So in the past when a large fish moved -- pulse
4 of fish moved into the river, everybody on the river was
5 well aware of the fish are here, and they're well aware of
6 when the fish are going to move through their community,
7 and a lot of people targeted on that first pulse of fish.
8 Well, if you just go with the Board of Fish schedule,
9 that's not going to happen any more. There's windows in
10 there. Communities aren't going to be fishing and that
11 pulse of fish, not just the first pulse of fish, but all
12 pulses of fish as they move in the river, will have less
13 pressure on them. Some villages might hit them, some
14 villages might not. It's all going to be dependent on when
15 they come in the river.

16
17 Lower river fishermen, they don't know when
18 that pulse is going to come in. They have to fish a lot of
19 hours just to find out when the fish are coming in there,
20 and then when the word gets out, they quickly get out there
21 and then they start fishing hard. There's some people that
22 fish hard all the time, and they just work hard all the
23 time. You know, and others -- others don't have the gas.
24 Others don't have the money. They -- you know, others
25 can't fish all the time, but, see, this year is going to be
26 different. You have these 36-hour periods, and it could
27 concentrate more effort during these 36-hour periods. If a
28 pulse moves into the river, they might catch more than they
29 would have if they were fishing seven days a week. We
30 don't know.

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Tom, do you have a
33 right to tell us about subsistence? I thought 1999 federal
34 take over lower Yukon River, and they are managing
35 subsistence in lower Yukon. Not the State.

36
37 MR. MALLARD: Mr. Chair, that's one reason
38 we have this protocol we discussed earlier, that the --
39 we're just going through a discussion phase now with you
40 all. We're getting the State's thoughts on it. We're
41 working somewhat internally. But your input is very, very
42 helpful to us, because you are correct, on the Yukon Delta
43 is only the subsistence. But we have to depend upon the
44 state to regulate to regulate commercial and sports and
45 these other issues.

46
47 But we want to enter this season with both
48 the state and the federal government and you with a concept
49 that we can all agree with, and the very maximum, this
50 three days a week. And we still need to provide for

00249

1 subsistence upstream, and quite frankly if we don't start
2 providing it, there's already people out there now, I think
3 there's already one -- possibly one court case potentially
4 requesting Tier II. And tier II for Nome, it may be
5 somewhat of an exaggeration, but I think there's only 12
6 fishermen in Nome that can fish under Tier II, and they're
7 all roughly 72 years old. And I think there's still a
8 quota on how many fish they can take. This is just
9 roughly. But it could be that half the fishermen in this
10 room under Tier II would not be able to fish. I don't know
11 what -- where it would fall out, but we have to avoid Tier
12 II. We have to get fish up to other people.

13
14 MR. VANIA: You're right. The federal
15 government has jurisdiction for subsistence fishing up to
16 Paimiut. Well, you can see the maps. They have 60-some
17 percent.....

18
19 MR. MALLARD: Yeah. Yeah, roughly.

20
21 MR. VANIA:of jurisdiction along the
22 Yukon River. But, you know, we are going to endeavor to do
23 the same thing, but you're right. No, they -- if they
24 don't want to do what we would like to do, one of us is
25 going to have to compromise, or else we're going to
26 have.....

27
28 MR. MALLARD: Chaos.

29
30 MR. VANIA:different rules.

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The reason I'm saying
33 this, we've got some people here to testify concerning
34 subsistence. They've been waiting for fishery people a
35 couple days now, and I would like to give these people
36 opportunity, because we've got their names, and we hold
37 them back in order for you guys to come in. (In Yup'ik)
38 He's the first man here, and.....

39
40 MR. TEELUK: (In Yup'ik) Billy Teeluk.

41
42 MR. MALLARD: Billy, Monty.

43
44 MR. VANIA: Tom.

45
46 MR. TEELUK: Billy Teeluk.

47
48 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (In Yup'ik)

49
50 MR. TEELUK: (In Yup'ik) Mr. Chairman, big

00250

1 chief, I've got a question why state and federal government
2 come to me and tell me how to -- where and when I just
3 fish, and they never come around and say, can we do it this
4 way? Instead they come with regulations that we don't
5 understand and we have to follow is what they say. Is
6 there anyway the federal and state would come to us and
7 tell these people that they're going to protect their
8 rights of fishing? Not tell them when they must fish,
9 because I know and I grew up with them, and the big chief
10 have been fishing, and now me and my wife been fishing for
11 our kids and, you know, it was terrible this last summer
12 watching these people on Kotlik having to run down to the
13 Fish and Game every time they come around, and they have to
14 pick up that old soft fish for them to fish -- dry fish. A
15 number of times we did that. And we see this fish that we
16 wouldn't even cut and take it anyway. Some years at south
17 mouth fish do come in, and down here in the middle mouth or
18 south mouth of north mouth here, until a couple of days
19 later. I don't know how you guys figure the 36 hours and
20 how you're going to handle us.

21
22 You said something about agreeing to help
23 each other here. I need help here. I need some
24 protection. Telling these people that you've got right to
25 fish and you're going to fish like you've always been
26 doing, not right now as we want you to do. Would it be
27 possible for anything like that to happen for us? The
28 gussack come around and discuss to us how we should be
29 fishing. Because I don't think any state and federal
30 government ever come around here and say we want to hear
31 how you live out here, and tell us how you do. Instead
32 they come around and start telling us these things. Now we
33 have the 36-hour period. I don't know how they're going to
34 figure it out. I can't understand that, because once I
35 hear fish are being caught in Yukon, I go to my camp and
36 fish net, and I just take that much amount all the time
37 every year to fish for subsistence, but this year it has
38 been different. It's been kind of closed season and they
39 closed it on us, and we couldn't fish. And we already ran
40 out of fish. And it's terrible and could -- I asked these
41 guys if anything could be done like that, and they said
42 maybe need hearings. Why is it that you try to help us,
43 but push us aside, and it must be done like this? When we
44 here have no jobs, we have kids to take care of, we don't
45 travel out in Anchorage and other places to go fishing.
46 Most of the time we fish around here in this area. So I
47 was wondering about that. Is there any way for state and
48 federal to protect our way of fishing out here? I mean, I
49 want to go on living like this. I don't want them pushing
50 me around. Otherwise they might as well just take our kids

00251

1 and put us in jail or somewhere wherever they want to --
2 whatever they want to do, you know. It's like they're
3 living -- starting to live in fear that they -- they're
4 wondering how they're going to eat, because all of these
5 regulations you guys are throwing at us. So I'm wondering
6 about that, if it's possible, if we can make proposal to
7 protect these people that live out here and in Kuskokwim,
8 because most of these people live out here all their life.
9 (In Yup'ik)

10
11 INTERPRETER: I guess that's so much of
12 that.

13
14 MR. TEELUK: Quyana.

15
16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

17
18 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman?

19
20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Les.

21
22 MR. L. WILDE: This mandate of 36-hour
23 periods came from the Board of Fish, right? Make that
24 clear.

25
26 MR. VANIA: Yes.

27
28 MR. L. WILDE: That it did not come from
29 the federal government or that it did not come from Fish
30 and Game. It came from the Board of Fish, from the State
31 of Alaska. And these people are just reacting to the fact
32 that that's what it is.

33
34 MR. TEELUK: But still I -- I still find it
35 hard to understand how are they going to handle that. When
36 I go to my camp, if they give us that much hour and there's
37 all that fish running over there, by the time they get over
38 there, it's closed.

39
40 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah.

41
42 MR. TEELUK: And it wouldn't -- and
43 sometime they don't reach here during that time when it's
44 open. It's always been like that. Or sometimes -- some
45 years they hit here, and they don't hit over there. So
46 every spring when I hear fish, I go down to my camp and put
47 my net out and I take that much fish, and that's it, and
48 have enough for the whole winter, but this winter, like I
49 said, I didn't even make it to April on these things. Doy.
50 Quyana.

00252

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Okay. Quyana.
2 We're going through following the way we receive. Next is
3 Edward Andrews, Emmonak.

4
5 MR. ANDREWS: Quyana, Mr. Chairman, for
6 recognizing me. Most of what I wanted to cover on this one
7 is already covered by one of our elders here sitting behind
8 me. But there are maybe two or three items that I would
9 like to (In Yup'ik)

10
11 INTERPRETER: Is that what -- the statement
12 he'd like to make is to inform the Advisory Council in the
13 presence of these people, staff, the fishery for their
14 subsistence has been around for many, many years,
15 Centuries. For some, as long as they can remember. And
16 their -- the ancestral people have used that method and he
17 himself when he was a child, when he was growing up, his
18 father, who had left him behind, he taught him how to
19 handle the catch he had catch fishing, and he had catch
20 That's the training he got from his ancestor, from father
21 and grandfather, and he still uses that training that he
22 had received from his father and grandfather. He's not
23 alone that he was trained. All of the elders have told him
24 over and over again. When they are anxious (ph) for the
25 fish, when the spring breaks, they prepare for the salmon
26 before it even arrives, in expectation they hope to catch
27 the first few that come through here. And the first few,
28 the first ones that hit the weir (ph) were -- is always too
29 fat. The first ones should be like to catch a few, just to
30 eat for a few days, but not the whole bulk of them, because
31 they're too fat to harvest (ph) -- I mean to dry. There's
32 a lot of people that we have who are expecting the salmon.

33
34 There's three branches of the river of the
35 Yukon that lead out to the ocean. North, south -- middle
36 and south. There are many people here that are expecting
37 for arrival of the salmon, and the people that are
38 expecting for arrival of the salmon as far up as people
39 that exist on all the Yukon River. And now every year the
40 fish that come through here, through the Yukon are lower
41 every year. They get coming in less and less every year.
42 And two 36-hour, he feels that this 36 hours is not -- it's
43 not enough to.....

44
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Edward, that's for
46 three, Y-1, Y- 2, Y-3, two 36-hours.

47
48 MR. ANDREWS: (In Yup'ik)

49
50 INTERPRETER: He -- two 36-hours is

00253

1 confusing for the people.

2

3 MR. ANDREWS: That two 36-hours, if you
4 break it down with Y-1 and Y-2, it's only 12 hours for each
5 district, if you break those 36 hours. How does that 36
6 hours going to be worked for Y-1, Y-2, Y-3? Is it going to
7 be 36 for Y-1 and 36 for Y-2,.....

8

9 MR. VANIA: Yes.

10

11 MR. ANDREWS:36 for Y-3?

12

13 MR. VANIA: Yes.

14

15 MR. ANDREWS: How does that 36 going to be
16 breaking one district? 36 hours for the whole week?

17

18 MR. VANIA: All 36, two times a week. It
19 won't be a six-hour, a six-hour, a six-hour. It's a whole
20 36-hour period.

21

22 MR. ANDREWS: Two 36 hours for.....

23

24 MR. VANIA: Two 36-hour periods.

25

26 MR. ANDREWS: For the total of a week, that
27 will be what, 72 hours?

28

29 MR. VANIA: Yeah, three days. It ends --
30 three days a week fishing time.

31

32 MR. ANDREWS: Okay.

33

34 MR. MALLARD: That's one of the options
35 that's being discussed.

36

37 MR. ANDREWS: It seems like it's not enough
38 hours, you know, because I mentioned that right there at
39 the mouth of lower river, we have a lot of people, lot of
40 populations. It's really a populations, mouth of the Yukon
41 compared to people that are living way up the river, so I
42 think the people that are sitting here listening, they
43 heard 36 hours is not going to be, you know -- (In Yup'ik)

44

45 INTERPRETER: That's about all I have to
46 offer.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana. Next on our
49 list here is Peter Elachik. Peter.

50

1 MR. ELACHIK: I'm Peter Elachik, resident
2 of Kotlik. I want to have public input on subsistence and
3 economic, because they both go hand in hand. We need both
4 to maintain life as you all know it, because you cannot do
5 subsistence activities without paying for it. And then
6 since there is a limited economic opportunity to have a job
7 in the community, a large percentage of the people live on
8 welfare. And next year, July 1st, will be the end of the
9 five-year period for some of the people who have been on
10 welfare, because that -- by June 30th it will be the 60-
11 month. They will have used up their time to live on
12 welfare. After that, they'll be forced to live on
13 subsistence.

14
15 And also I want to talk on numbers on fish.
16 We all know that the escapement level for salmon was good
17 in prior years. That is good. So a large number --
18 escapement was achieved, and we assumed that the salmon
19 went out into the ocean. But when they come back to Yukon,
20 the salmon numbers are low before they enter the river.
21 What happened to the fish once they leave here? They
22 return in about four years. And good -- when they leave,
23 we assume they leave in large numbers, but when they --
24 before they enter the Yukon, their numbers are low. That
25 results in shortened harvest time, now a shortened
26 subsistence harvest time. Like one of the members said, we
27 in Y-1, 2, 3, we did not cause the numbers to go low. What
28 I want to point out is by the time they reach -- before
29 they enter the river, the numbers of salmon are already
30 low. Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We're going to take a
33 break right now. Ten minutes break. We still have some
34 more people want to testify here. We're going to give
35 opportunity to everyone. Have a cup of coffee or.....

36
37 (Off record)

38
39 (On record)

40
41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Next Aloysius Unok,
42 Kotlik? Jack will take that, yeah.

43
44 MR. NICK: Okay. Jack. Go ahead, Jack.

45
46 MR. OKITKUN: I'm Jack Okitkun, Jr.,
47 Kotlik. Al couldn't be here this afternoon, because he had
48 to bring one of his children in to the hospital. And he
49 wanted to, you know, since we're talking about 36-hour
50 period for the week for subsistence fishing. You know, I

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1 like what Joe Mike said, subsistence comes first. And also
2 one of -- I'd like to thank Anna Kamkoff for stating that,
3 you know, the fish doesn't belong to anybody. The people
4 here in the lower Yukon region and throughout the river
5 system, they need the fish for food. And, you know, I'd
6 like to find out how are they going to -- you know, you
7 stated that you're going to have 36-hour periods, whether
8 it's -- if there's fish or not. If there's no fish how are
9 the people going to eat the food that they need? And, you
10 know, I personally don't care for this 36-hour period,
11 because like Billy Teeluk stated, that sometimes you get
12 fish on the south side and nothing up here, and we have to
13 wait on the fish, or sometimes we get the fish, and they
14 don't get the fish over there. Are you going to feed my
15 family for the winter? You know, there's -- jobs are very,
16 very precious out here in the Bush. So what's your
17 statement.

18
19 MR. MALLARD: Your question's not an easy
20 one. You know, I have to I guess approach these meetings
21 realizing, and hopefully you can realize it, too, that I
22 have to take a holistic view of the entire river. I have
23 to get your input, I have to get the input of people from
24 Kaltag, and the people from Eagle, all up and down the
25 river, and it's not easy at all. And you cannot satisfy
26 everyone, and we just try to come to the best decision with
27 your input. But we get the same things from Kaltag. The
28 same questions. How do we -- without commercial, how do we
29 subsist? Last year we got 20 percent of our needs met. At
30 Eagle, there was no commercial season, and they didn't get
31 any fish. And how do you balance it all out? And that's
32 what I'm hoping that you can help me with, you know, how do
33 we be fair to everyone along the river? And that's what
34 Tom and I are faced with is trying to develop a balanced
35 program that provide and divide what limited resources we
36 have during these terrible periods.

37
38 MR. VANIA: It's going to be a hard summer.
39 It's going to be difficult for everyone. It's just that
40 right now there's some problems with production going on
41 with the salmon, and there just are not enough fish in the
42 river for everyone to get 100 percent of their needs met.
43 It just -- I mean, it's a reduction that's going to have to
44 take place in order to meet escapements. And our
45 escapements, you know, aren't going to be overflowing. You
46 know, we're going to be just shooting to make minimums into
47 the rivers. But, I mean, it's a question for everybody
48 that, what are we going to do in the summertime? The
49 questions you ask, what are we going to do for food? What
50 are you going to do for food? You're not going to have any

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1 money, because there's no commercial fishing. I mean,
2 everybody needs to start thinking about this now and trying
3 to get things in the works to get some relief for the area.
4 I mean, last year it was all too late, wasn't it? I mean,
5 by the time the disaster and everybody started moving, I
6 mean, the fish were passed, they were gone and harvests
7 were over. I mean, everybody really needs to start pushing
8 now to come up with some solutions on how to make up for
9 the lack of food that we're going to expect to see this
10 summer. I mean, it's a process that needs to get going
11 now. And we're just trying to get the word out. We're
12 trying to prepare everybody for the summer, that don't
13 expect to have your subsistence fishing needs met. We
14 don't expect the fish to be there, and so we're trying to
15 give everybody an early head start to prepare for this, and
16 do what it takes to compensate for it. I mean, I don't
17 have the answers.

18
19 MR. OKITKUN: The other question I have is,
20 you know, ever since they started fishing for pollack, they
21 told us that one million (ph) -- they told us that their
22 bycatch was over the quota that was caught in the Yukon for
23 the.....

24
25 MR. VANIA: Yeah.

26
27 MR. OKITKUN:commercial fishing, and
28 then one year later I wrote to them and asked them what was
29 their bycatch for chinook and chum salmon, they told me
30 they caught only one. So what -- who's to blame here? Who
31 regulates the people that fish out in the donut hole out
32 there?

33
34 MR. VANIA: That's the North Pacific
35 Fisheries Council, right? It's fed, it's a federal
36 council. Am I right?

37
38 MR. BERG: International.

39
40 MR. VANIA: International. Not the donut,
41 but the pollack fishery, that's North Pacific. Yeah. I'm
42 not sure what their bycatch was recently. And things could
43 change with that pollack fishery, too, because now they've
44 closed off areas, you know, to protect the steller sealion,
45 and they're going to be shifting the fleet, and they're not
46 really sure what impact it's going to have on western
47 Alaska salmon with this shift of the fleet, so I don't know
48 where that's going to go.

49
50 MR. OKITKUN: Thanks.

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Next is
2 Emmanuel Keyes. Here? Emmanuel Keyes? If he's not here,
3 Anna Kamkoff. Anna.

4
5 MS. KAMKOFF: I am -- my name is Anna
6 Kamkoff from Kotlik. (In Yup'ik)

7
8 INTERPRETER: She's going to talk in
9 Yup'ik. I will rarely (ph) hunt. She said that some of
10 those issues, she can't understand what they're all about.
11 And she said that Andy (ph) hunt most of area, and the fish
12 depend on the direction of the wind. If the wind is from
13 south wind in the wintertime and springtime, this area is
14 where the fish hit. But then if the north wind blows
15 during the winter, the water is low, very low, and it's --
16 the water is usually low in this area. That when we have a
17 south wind, that's a good wind for this area. If the wind
18 is from west, that wind is also good for this area. If we
19 have an east wind, there's no fish in our whole river.
20 It's -- that's the behavior of the fish. They depend on
21 the direction of the wind. She wanted to emphasize that,
22 you know, the wind direction is important to this area.

23
24 And the other issue that she wanted to
25 bring up was the (indiscernible) to the (indiscernible) for
26 this area. If you could turn down -- in subsistence
27 fisheries, to the federal -- I mean, the welfare is bound
28 to increase. There's no work in this area. The fish will
29 bring cash money and work.

30
31 My husband passed away and when he was
32 commercial fishing, when there was no fish, he ended up
33 with unpaid bills. And he -- and right now my son-in-law
34 is planning to fish for me this summer. But then I found
35 out -- I heard that the subsistence fishery is not enough.
36 And sometimes last summer we didn't catch that many fish,
37 and right now we are very, you know, in a bad shape And we
38 are running out of subsistence food. How are we going to
39 eat. How am I going to feed my grandchildren? How are we
40 to eat? Fish -- I think this people that work and make
41 these decisions will not provide for me food. The store
42 bought food I cannot have, because I'm not used to them. I
43 grew up eating what wildlife provided, and I pass that to
44 my children and my grandchildren are that way, too. And
45 she say that when they have store bought food, that they
46 don't -- they're not good food. They don't have what I
47 (ph) need (ph) of the body. And when there's no cooked
48 food, he used to tell the children, he say, they would tell
49 them go to store and buy yourself some food. They will
50 say, I don't want the store food (indiscernible). But they

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1 ask for dry fish, but unfortunately she will be running out
2 of dry fish before the end of the month.

3
4 She's wondering, she -- we have been taught
5 how to eat like what nature provides, but unfortunately we
6 get directions from outsiders how we should handle out
7 subsistence food.

8
9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Quyana. Next is
10 Greg. Got to finish your.....

11
12 MR. NICK: Craig.

13
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Huh?

15
16 MR. NICK: Craig.

17
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Craig.

19
20 MR. NICK: Feener.

21
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. You've got to
23 finish your -- what you was testifying or you could -- go
24 ahead.

25
26 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Well,
27 I was going to ask Tom Vania another question, but I think
28 I'll change what I was going to say and sort of ask, I
29 guess more what we think we're going to do, or what you
30 guys think you would be willing to do as a Council. I
31 support what you guys have said, you know, how -- why
32 should we in the river have to pay the price for what's
33 going on out in the ocean? But we can continue to ask that
34 question for the next five years, and the salmon returns
35 are still going to go down more and more and more.

36
37 I think we need to do all we can, you know,
38 especially in our joint councils, and all of the councils
39 in Alaska. I think we need to get together and do as much
40 as we can do to have some studies done to find out what's
41 going on out in the ocean, and to try to stop, you know, or
42 decrease the amount of commercial fishing that goes on out
43 there with chum and with kings, to try to get more fish
44 into the river.

45
46 But we have a problem right now that we
47 need to take care of, and that is meeting escapement goals
48 this year. It doesn't matter what we say about Area M, you
49 know, right now. The fish are going to be headed here
50 pretty quick. So what we need to do is try to identify how

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1 we're going to try to fix that problem. And I can only say
2 from the Yukon Flats perspective that if things go like
3 they went last year, we're going to get, you know, less
4 than half, less than a quarter of our subsistence needs
5 again. Nearly none of our subsistence needs will be met.
6 And I can only ask you guys to consider us when you make
7 whatever decision you need to make, to think about trying
8 to get those escapement goals up, and I don't know what
9 that means, you know. I know it does mean that if you guys
10 are going to go along with it, you're going to have to cut
11 back on some of the fish you get, and nobody wants to hear
12 that. It's easy for me to ask you to cut back on some of
13 the fish you take, because we're getting almost nothing in
14 the Yukon Flats. So it's easy for me to ask you, and it
15 will be you that has to make that decision. And I know
16 that's a hard decision to make, because you want to feed
17 your families just like we do. And I would ask that you
18 consider us that that are way in the upper part of the
19 Yukon River when you make our decision.

20
21 But just realize and understand that I
22 support everything you've said, but I also have to
23 represent what the Eastern Interior has sent me here to
24 represent, and that is to ask you to consider our needs
25 when you consider the arguments that these guys are
26 presenting. And I don't necessarily agree with everything
27 these two guys are saying, because like you've said, we --
28 they want us to -- they want us to give something up to
29 meet escapement goals. I support that. But I also think
30 we need to find other measures and other means. And I
31 think we all have to look at our own subsistence take to
32 consider how we can protect the escapement goals of -- or
33 how do we -- we can meet the escapement goals of salmon.

34
35 If you guys catch all of the king salmon
36 that you need, if Y-1, Y-2 catches all the king salmon that
37 you guys need, you know, that -- if we have another low
38 run, or even a lower run, that may mean that only 15 or 20
39 percent of the king salmon that Y-3 and up needs and
40 escapement goals need, that may mean that only about 15
41 percent of those fish are going to make, if you guys get
42 all that you need. So if you are able to convince these
43 guys to give you four -- or I don't know if there are four
44 36. If you were able to convince them to give you seven-
45 day a week fishing, you know, that may leave nothing for
46 the upper Yukon, and it surely will leave nothing for
47 escapement, because as it's been pointed out, you're very
48 efficient fishermen, and you have sonar sites to tell you
49 when the fish are coming in the river, and you have test
50 wheels to tell you when the fish are coming in the river.

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1 And so if you guys fish as much as you want to fish, you
2 will definitely get the fish you need. And I would just
3 ask you guys to consider that -- to allow some fish to go
4 by so that the upper Yukon can meet their needs, and that
5 we can meet escapement goals. And it's a hard thing to
6 ask, especially when you invite me to your community, you
7 know, or to this community. It's a hard thing for me to
8 ask another group of subsistence hunters to give up some of
9 their -- of what they catch, but we're not meeting, and we
10 haven't met any of our needs for years. And if it
11 continues to go this way, we won't meet our needs. And if
12 it continues to go -- even if you guys get 75 percent of
13 your need, the possibility is we're going to be cut off
14 again before we get to do much fishing. That's how it's
15 gone for the last couple of years. And so I don't know
16 what else to say other than try to think about if you guys
17 get all of your fish, think about, you know, we're not
18 going to meet escapement. If all of us get all of our
19 fish, there will be no escapement, and so I'm certainly
20 here for any questions, or anybody wants to yell at me, I'm
21 right here, so.....

22
23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I think we just
24 about exactly know how they're going to manage. They're
25 going to be tight coming in the hump there. I don't think
26 they let us fish. I think they're going to let them pass.
27 That's what they've been doing all the time. You
28 understand what I'm saying?

29
30 MR. FLEENER: Yes, the first tide that
31 comes in.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. In lower Yukon,
34 mouth of Yukon, it's controlled -- fish controlled by tide
35 and the wind. And -- but we get blamed that we finish the
36 fish down here. Yeah, we had better opportunity down here,
37 not like upriver. Like last summer, we struggle, we work
38 together, our elders tell us you -- fish is not here, fish
39 is over here. That -- last summer I was one of the, you
40 know, we meet -- we have meeting all the time
41 teleconference. Yukon River Drainage Fishermen's
42 Association teleconference, you know, that this time Yukon
43 Fishermen's Association don't have no money for
44 teleconference. It might be if there's no other money
45 that's coming, they might be reduced, the teleconference.
46 Not every week, not like before, last year. I think you
47 tell us that we have to do something. We can't do nothing
48 here. We are just advisory. We listen to our people.
49 It's up to our people what they want. Our people have to
50 be -- understand, those people that we represent, we --

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1 they know also, our elders know also people up there, they
2 need some food to eat, like us. So there will be -- we
3 have to work together to do -- not like last year. Last
4 year was a problem. The water's too high, there was a lot
5 of debris in the water, lots of wood. I know you got --
6 they use a fish wheel. It's pretty hard to use a fish
7 wheel, high water and when there's a lot of debris in the
8 river. We did down here, yeah. Down here, lot of wood,
9 lot of snags, and all that stuff and high water. But we,
10 some of us, our elders tell us where to go. Work with our
11 elders as -- in some area. That's what we do. Lester.
12 John is next.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I think one
15 thing that we all must remember, the fish are not like --
16 they're not coming in like they used to in the past. And
17 the only thing that comes to my mind when we're talking
18 about quotas for section -- unit one, unit two, and
19 everybody wants to fish.

20
21 But one thing that we must realize is if
22 there is an X-amount of fish coming in, and we eat them all
23 before they get up to the spawning grounds, our kids won't
24 have anything to eat. So I think now is the best time to
25 start rationing ourselves to the fish that we do get, so
26 our children and our grandchildren can have the same fish
27 that we have. We can talk all we want until we're blue in
28 the face to try and get the amount of fish that we need to
29 live on. But one thing it comes down is a choice. You
30 want to have a good lunch today or do you want to have
31 breakfast, lunch and dinner tomorrow? It's up to us.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John?

34
35 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
36 Yeah, I'm concerned about you, about what your seeing, and
37 I have been trying all these years, for a couple of years
38 now since we got together with Western Interior, Eastern
39 Interior, and telling the -- our officials here, federal
40 officials that the people on the Yukon are not to blame for
41 finishing up the fish. But nothing has happened. The
42 Department of Fish and Game told us in Anchorage that 2001
43 is going to be worse than 2000, so taking that into
44 consideration, it's pretty obvious that they're going to
45 cut our subsistence. I don't think we -- one of the
46 department personnel told me that they don't think they're
47 going to open our commercial. Well, we haven't commercial
48 right from the start when the fish start entering the
49 Yukon, they always wait until all the fish pass, and then
50 they open our season. So your concern is just as good as

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1 my concern. And so is the Western Interior and Eastern
2 Interior. But -- and I've been after the Department of
3 Fish and Game, even our federal officials here not to blame
4 the Yukon for finishing the fish, because we don't fish
5 them. Get out there, but they say, well, that's out of
6 their jurisdiction. Well, I know the federal has
7 jurisdiction out there. The state has jurisdiction three
8 miles out, but they don't want to do anything. And I don't
9 think they're going to tell me why they don't want to do
10 it. Once we get that chopped (ph) out there, I think state
11 and federal are going to see some fish come back so the
12 spawning, we'll have some fish to -- for all the people on
13 the Yukon. The Yukon is long.

14
15 And every time we talk to a state official,
16 they always mention Canada. Well, when I talk, I don't
17 think of Canada, because there's Canada fish that pass
18 through our area, but I think there's going to be some --
19 we're going to have to take some action, more action than
20 what we've taken before in the Yukon, in the mouth of the
21 Yukon, but that's going to really hurt us, because last
22 summer from what I heard from the Department the spawning
23 streams above Holy Cross didn't meet their escapement.

24
25 Take for instance Anvik is where they took
26 one, two and three, that's the spawning stream for those
27 fish tooks (ph). The Anvik usually produces over a million
28 fish. Well, the Department cut their escapement goal down
29 to 500,000. It's not my fault that I'm hurting those fish,
30 it's the Department's fault that they cut that million down
31 to 500. See, once they start playing with escapement
32 goals, it's hurting the stream, and I think that's what's
33 happening up further in the Interior.

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We're going to last
36 call for Emmanuel Keyes. He's not here.

37
38 (Whispered conversation)

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

41
42 MR. NICK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, this is not
43 a Council business, but it was recommended by -- or
44 suggested by one of the council members that we pass a
45 plate for donations for local family who just lost their
46 family member. The body just arrived I believe this
47 afternoon. One of the council members would like to take
48 this opportunity to pass the plate around for anyone who
49 might be able to donate a little bit for the family, the
50 family members of a deceased person whose body's -- whose

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1 body was brought back to Kotlik, and maybe our chair person
2 could appoint one of the local people here to receive those
3 on behalf of the family.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Who's volunteer?

6

7 (Pause, general conversations)

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

10

11 INTERPRETER: Yesterday the dangers, but
12 they are not going to -- they are going to have a break
13 tonight. Since they are not going to have this dance, we
14 would like to.....

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: 6:30. One hour. We're
17 going to have lunch and come back 6:30. We will use our
18 agenda, we're going into Kuskokwim management for 2001.
19 We'll take a break at this time.

20

21 (Off record)

22

23 (On record)

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We'll try to finish our
26 meeting. Next on our agenda is Kuskokwim fishery for 2001.

27

28 MR. L. WILDE: Charles Burkey, you changed.

29

30 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah. I got -- I lost all my
31 hair. Mr. Chairman, apparently Charlie Burkey isn't going
32 to make it, so we figured what we'd do is just go over the
33 rebuilding plan that was developed by the Board of Fish.
34 Jerry and I were both there when they did it, and then a
35 few other comments and then we could take questions on
36 that.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

39

40 MR. RIORDEN: Jerry, you can do the.....

41

42 MR. BERG: Okay. Yeah, Mr. Chairman,
43 members of the Council, this -- as you know, the runs on
44 the Kuskokwim are in similar shape as they are on the
45 Yukon, and I think what probably demonstrates it the best
46 under I think it's tab F, the last page of tab F, there's a
47 graph that kind of shows the chinook escapement and
48 harvest. It's a bar graph on the Kuskokwim, and as you can
49 see, the chinook harvest is on the top part, the top table,
50 and has remained relatively stable between 60 and 80,000

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1 fish over the past ten years or so. The last three years
2 escapement has not been met in general along the Kuskokwim
3 drainages. And for the chum salmon, escapement has also
4 not been met with the last two years along the Kuskokwim.
5 So we're in a pretty similar situation, and the Board of
6 Fish did take some significant actions this last January.
7 James Charles was able to go down to that Board of Fish
8 meeting as well as Robert Nick, and they provided as we
9 said earlier, very good input into that process. The
10 actions that they took mainly were to set up a fishing
11 schedule for the Kuskokwim as they did for the Yukon, and
12 the fishing schedule they came up with was to have four
13 days of fishing, consecutive days of fishing and three days
14 of closed to subsistence fishing, and that would have --
15 that would apply to all gill nets and fish wheels in the
16 river. And I should also I guess add in that that would
17 apply to gill nets, four inches or greater. So gill nets
18 four inches and less can still be used for other species in
19 the river.

20
21 They also have hook and line subsistence
22 fishery is allowed on the Kuskokwim as it is on the lower
23 Yukon, and also it's -- there are some portions of the
24 Kuskokwim it doesn't -- it isn't allowed, but for the most
25 part the lower river does allow it, and so it's not being
26 restricted. The hook and line fishing is unrestricted for
27 subsistence purposes on the entire Kuskokwim.

28
29 They also took some actions on commercial
30 fisheries, but I won't go into those too much, unless you
31 have questions about them. In general they do not expect
32 to have any commercial fishery, of course, on the Kuskokwim
33 as well. It would just -- why they also -- we also
34 instituted the fishing schedule.

35
36 And they also said that they were going to
37 have -- they were going to allow for some sport fishery
38 based on whatever the subsistence priority was for state
39 regulation. And according to the news release that the
40 State put out about two weeks ago, they intend to allow for
41 sport fishing for one fish per day until they see that the
42 season will be -- or if the fish start coming in in lower
43 numbers, then they'll take further action. So that is a
44 reduction of about half of the sport fishing. And so we
45 have some concerns about that sport fishery, and I know
46 some of the other council members have also expressed some
47 concerns, and we're certainly prepared to have some
48 discussions around that matter.

49
50 And then as James Charles mentioned a

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1 little bit earlier, there's some -- there's some
2 discussions about which days will be open, and days will be
3 closed, and we had some of those discussions at the working
4 group meeting this last Monday, but, of course, the working
5 group didn't have a quorum, so they couldn't take any
6 action on which days the fishery will actually be closed.
7 There's some talk about having it closed on Friday through
8 Sunday. But as Mary said, the folks up in the Aniak area
9 said that they would rather have it -- I don't know which
10 days.

11
12 MR. RIORDEN: Saturday open.

13
14 MR. BERG: Saturday open, so Sunday,
15 Monday, and Tuesday would be closed. We also feel that in
16 order to conserve more chinook salmon, we're going to try
17 to issue a cooperative appeal on the river, and get various
18 people up and down the river to sign off on the appeal. We
19 had a cooperative appeal last year that was signed by the
20 Native Village of Kwethluk, AVCP, Fish and Game, Fish and
21 Wildlife, and some of the other villages along the
22 Kuskokwim to ask people to voluntarily reduce their Chinook
23 harvest if they can to help conserve and get more peop --
24 more fish up to the spawning ground, because we have not
25 met escapement for the past three years on the Kuskokwim,
26 and we're not sure that even the four days open and three
27 days closed schedule will help us meet escapement, so we're
28 going to ask people to also do what they can to cut back on
29 their escapements in addition to the fishing schedule.

30
31 I think that's all I have, if Mike wants to
32 add, or we can answer questions.

33
34 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman?

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

37
38 MR. L. WILDE: In the event that you should
39 reduce the time allowed for subsistence on either river,
40 are you going to still allow the sport fishermen to take
41 their one fish per day?

42
43 MR. BERG: That -- yeah, go ahead.

44
45 MR. RIORDEN: Well, at least on the
46 Kuskokwim, that's something I wanted to bring up, is that I
47 don't feel comfortable allowing any sport fish to occur,
48 sport fishing to occur when we're asking people to reduce
49 their subsistence take, and so I've been strongly urging
50 the Sport Fish Division to consider closing sport fishing

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1 during the times that we have any reduction on subsistence
2 fishing opportunity. I don't know where they're going with
3 that, but it would be my request that we discuss this here
4 as far as how that would compete with federal subsistence
5 management on the river. And my problem is, is that I
6 believe that even with the four days a week that we have
7 open, I believe that people will still take ask many fish
8 as they normally do, if they don't voluntarily reduce it on
9 their own. But I can't go to an old lady in Napakiak and
10 ask her to reduce her harvest when there's people up on the
11 Aniak and the Kwethluk and the Kisaralik that are sport
12 fishing and are able to take fish when it's closed for
13 everybody else. So I've got a real problem in my mind
14 allowing that to happen, so the best way I think would be
15 for this council to -- if you feel the same way, it's up --
16 you know, you guys need to make your decision on that, to
17 request that the Board consider that. And if that doesn't
18 happen, then my guess is the political pressure will close
19 it for the state anyway, and I think they're prepared for
20 that to happen, but.....

21
22 MR. L. WILDE: The Board meaning?

23
24 MR. RIORDEN: The Subsistence Board. I
25 think the Subsistence Board should hear that concern. I've
26 heard it from a lot of people on the Delta, and I have
27 those concerns myself. And frankly, if I was going to do
28 that, I would recommend a closure in the entire refuge, so
29 it would also include sport fishing on the Yukon River. I
30 don't know what Monty and other folks think of that, but
31 that seemed to make sense to me. There's not much sport
32 fishing going on on the Andreafsky or any of the other
33 rivers, but it's hard to ask people to quit fishing or
34 reduce their fishing when there's sport fishing going on.

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary?

37
38 MS. GREGORY: During our informal Kuskokwim
39 Working Group meeting, Nixie Mellick (ph) suggested since
40 there's only -- they're allowed one fish on sport, they do
41 away with sport fishing and go into hook and line as a
42 subsistence gear.

43
44 MR. RIORDEN: That's allowed already
45 anyway. Local people can already use hook line for
46 subsistence gear in Unit 18, you know, in that area.

47
48 MR. L. WILDE: So if you don't allow me to
49 fish subsistence with a net, I could go up Andreafsky River
50 with my rod and reel and catch a king salmon as a

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1 sportsman?

2

3 MR. RIORDEN: Yes, you -- well, you can
4 actually do it as a subsistence fisherman in Unit 18.

5

6 MR. L. WILDE: No, I was just throwing that
7 out.

8

9 MR. RIORDEN: Right. Right. But if you're
10 from Montana and floating the river, the Aniak River, you
11 can catch one fish a day for two days, and take those two
12 fish and take them home when it's closed for subsistence
13 fishermen.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mike Savage?

16

17 MR. SAVAGE: I'm from around Aniak area
18 there, about 39 (ph) miles away. There's a bunch of
19 subsistence users in Aniak River, and also up the river
20 there in some slough. There are sports fishermen there,
21 right around Crooked Creek and that area. When I subsist
22 -- when my dad gave us training on subsistence, (In
23 Yup'ik). You know, you watch what we catch and how much we
24 catch, and that's it for year. He said, if you want to run
25 around and play with fish -- if you're not going to take
26 care of your fish, why fish? That's what he tells us. And
27 the amount of years I've been fishing in this one area
28 since 1960, 59/60 we've been fishing that one area. Every
29 year he watches that place. If we're not catching our
30 fish, you know, he limits it, he says we've got from May 26
31 to middle of June. That's our fishing season. That's
32 where we take our subsistence food, and we take care of the
33 food. Kings. And if we're (indiscernible) the first week
34 of June, if we're not catching our fish, he looks at that
35 real careful, even it's high water, a lot of debris in
36 there. And he tells us what to do. We're just three of us
37 in the family left that works with him. And there's a big
38 family there, we're a total of 25, about 20, 25 of us. And
39 we get about the end -- the middle of the month, and
40 hopefully we're done. By the end of June hopefully we put
41 everything away.

42

43 This last year we (indiscernible). I don't
44 know why. Because we couldn't catch any fish. But he made
45 one thing -- at that time he said, you draw in that net.
46 And I said, I cannot. I told him under regulations I see
47 if we draw in our net, we will get into trouble. One of us
48 is going to land in jail. And I didn't want to argue with
49 him, he's 80-some years old. I (indiscernible) on that.
50 Four days. You know, he figured in four days we'll have

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1 enough food. Well, we caught 50 fish in four days, and
2 that was still not enough for a big family. Still he let
3 us put out that net at that time, because he wanted to feed
4 -- supply.

5
6 And this other thing about sport fishing,
7 you know, I watch them, -- I heard about being around Aniak
8 and all that stuff, and I don't try to go around sport
9 fish, because I'm pretty much against it. I've watched
10 some guys play with it, and I'm not a kind of a person that
11 would go up and throw a rod and play with fish just to get
12 something to eat. Because if I don't get that fish in,
13 that fish worked hard enough to get away from me, I hurt
14 that -- I think I hurt that fish more than I hurt myself,
15 because fish going up to spawn in that area, I always
16 wonder if that fish is going to make it up.

17
18 That's something to take a look at, catch
19 and release. Are those fish going to make it up to the
20 spawning ground?

21
22 MR. RIORDEN: I think when there's a normal
23 or a healthy population of fish, I don't think sport
24 fishing significantly affects the population. But we're in
25 dire straits at this point where every fish that goes onto
26 the spawning grounds is an important fish. So -- and then,
27 of course, the concern of -- we've got to try and convince
28 people, or work with people to convince them to conserve
29 fish this year, and it's going to be very hard if we
30 continue to allow this. That was my only point in that
31 regard.

32
33 MR. SAVAGE: Well, I still don't agree with
34 you on making it up there even, because if you lose one
35 fish from there going up to his spawning ground, are -- you
36 know, are you going to get enough fish back into that area
37 there?

38
39 MR. RIORDEN: Well, I think sport fishing
40 can have an affect on salmon populations, but when we have
41 a lot of -- lots and lots of salmon, lots of fish, then
42 probably the level that occurs on the Kuskokwim is not very
43 detrimental to the population. I don't think that's a
44 problem. It's just at this time with the reduced number of
45 fish, I think it is.

46
47 MR. SAVAGE: I've got one more, too. I
48 think it's a concern both areas. I've got lots of family
49 up there at Holy Cross, that my dad's originally from Holy
50 Cross, and now and then we trade fish, you know, dry fish,

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1 and I think this year with the amount of cutting down, is
2 that they're going to be bugging me more, since we have
3 this four days and three days not fishing. And that means
4 my family may have to work twice as hard to support the
5 other relatives in the Kuskokwim -- on the Kuskokwim.
6 That's something, I respect my -- you know, we -- my dad
7 taught us and my grandpa taught us to help each others out,
8 family. So I -- you know, if I don't -- if my dad doesn't
9 get enough fish this year, this coming year, and the other
10 relatives asking for fish, he will give them, no matter --
11 even if we're going to run out. We ran out already this
12 year. But I'm going to see an elder telling us you're
13 going to have to share with the other relatives to keep
14 them healthy. It's going to be where two -- you know, 25
15 of us working hard, and then if they decide to come over
16 and give us a hand at that time, there's no way am I going
17 to say no to them.

18
19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John. James.

20
21 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22 I don't know if you guys would be the right person to tell
23 this. Well, Tom Vania is over there listening so it's
24 okay. Under the state, I guess it's a regulation by the
25 State, for conservative -- conservation of the resources,
26 when a commercial fishery closed, sport fishery closes,
27 personal use fishery closes. Subsistence stays open. So
28 Kuskokwim has to have a conservation problem for I don't
29 know how long now. The Yukon for the last three years has
30 been having conservation problems on the salmon.
31 Commercial fishery closed. Both from the mouth of the
32 Yukon all the way up to the border. But the sport fishery
33 still goes on. Now, why is that when the state has a
34 ruling that for conservation purposes, commercial fishery
35 closes, sport fishery closes, personal use closes. And the
36 sport fishery is still going on.

37
38 MR. RIORDEN: Well, I don't think we can
39 answer that. I don't know if Tom can either. It's a
40 different division than him. Do you know, Tom?

41
42 MR. VANIA: I think the way the regulations
43 and the law works, see, we had this issue when we were
44 talking about doing subsistence restrictions on Chinook
45 salmon year in the middle of July. I approached Sport Fish
46 Division and said, look, we're talking about having some
47 subsistence restrictions being put on in-season here. And
48 there was discussion about -- from the Sport Fish Division
49 that, well, we're just going to do catch and release. And
50 then there was discussion about, well, how can you do catch

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1 and release if we're going to restrict subsistence. And
2 then it came to a law saying, if there is a significant
3 impact upon the subsistence fishery, then sport fish better
4 close. So, you know, within the Department we have some
5 disagreement between divisions when sport fish should close
6 in relation to the other fisheries. You know, as a
7 commercial fisheries biologist, I have a hard time seeing
8 Sport Fish Division continue to fish when I am closing
9 personal use and commercial fishing. So Sport Fish
10 Division has a different look at it. And I have problems
11 in working -- trying to work out what I feel is equitable
12 for the fisheries which I am in charge of.

13
14 So it is difficult, but if you're going to
15 close subsistence, sport fish has to close. If you're
16 going to restrict subsistence, sport fish is going to look
17 at taking a level commensurate to what you're doing to
18 subsistence. That's Sport Fish Division. That's what they
19 are doing. They have a problem with in-season cutting off
20 sport fishing, because you have a lot of people that are
21 paying a lot of money that are booking these trips. So
22 they would rather do something at the beginning of the
23 season to let all the sport fishermen know that, you know,
24 you have the opportunity to catch one fish, and to them
25 that is very important for them. And their argument that
26 they always continue to put out is the level of harvest
27 that they're taking is pretty small.

28
29 On the Yukon River, you really have the
30 Anvik and you've got the Chena Salcha where they're
31 harvesting. And I think the Kuskokwim's probably a little
32 more. I mean, there's a little more pressure on the Aniak,
33 and the Kisaralik and some of those rivers, so -- but I
34 mean it's tough for me to come up with a good answer for
35 you, because I have a hard time dealing with it myself, so
36 it's not (indiscernible).

37
38 MR. HANSON: Well, the State Constitution
39 mandates that for conservation purposes you close -- if you
40 close commercial, sport fish has to be closed, and the
41 personal use has to be closed. The only one that stays on
42 line for a while is subsistence, because that's priority
43 one. The Board of Fish, their priority one is
44 escapement.....

45
46 MR. VANIA: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

47
48 MR. HANSON:conservation of
49 escapement. The next one is the subsistence.

50

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1 MR. VANIA: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

2

3 MR. HANSON: But if the sport fishery still
4 going on, the commercial is shut down, the subsistence is
5 knocked down to half, the sport fishery should completely
6 be closed along with the commercial.

7

8 MR. VANIA: I agree.

9

10 MR. HANSON: But in some of the area where
11 they have conservation, sport fishery is going, hook and
12 line -- I mean, not hook and line.....

13

14 MR. VANIA: catch and release.

15

16 MR. HANSON:hook and release.

17

18 MR. VANIA: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

19

20 MR. HANSON: That's what they use. Well,
21 hook and release, you let the fish go after you put a hook
22 in them, he's not going to survive. He might for a little
23 while, yeah, so I can't see why sport fishery still have to
24 go on when the commercial fishery is closed and the
25 personal use is closed, because sport fishery isn't
26 subsistence. A lot of these older people in the village,
27 they say sport fishing is playing with the fish. That's
28 what they always call it.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: James Charles.

31

32 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
33 We've had advisory committee meetings or that meeting was
34 in October, and we also had another meeting with Board
35 members, John White and Coffey over there in Bethel in
36 January. And advisory committee for Kuskokwim, lower
37 Kuskokwim was complaining about sport fishing that time,
38 too, and me from downriver after the Board of Fish make
39 this regulation that -- or the -- about this management for
40 the season, they cut our subsistence fishing to four days,
41 and me, I was thinking that at the mouth of Kuskokwim I am
42 going to stop subsistence fishing and let the fish go by
43 for the sport fishermen upriver. Why should I do that when
44 my family is going to use the fish, or to dry fish, and
45 watch -- or let the fish go buy just for -- they're not
46 going to catch all the fish, but they will catch some of
47 the fish that go by when I'm -- when I won't be able to
48 fish, because it's closed for subsistence at certain time.
49 So that's what I was not happy about sport fishing open
50 when we cannot subsistence fish. Thank you.

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Anyone else? I think I
2 am afraid for these two rivers. State and federal have to
3 make sure everyone understanding in these two rivers. They
4 should go to every village, because of our children and
5 young people, you're going to have an enforcement problem
6 if people are having a misunderstanding. So it's really
7 important that those people in these two rivers should
8 understand. There will be some -- I know that they -- it
9 will be some blame. We make get blamed for it here, we're
10 just advisors. We cannot do what your decisions. You have
11 to go out there and tell the people or villages, go to the
12 villages and let the villages understand, if there's going
13 to be enforcement, how they're going to enforce. I didn't
14 want to see the people that we represent blaming us for
15 something that we couldn't do. I think, Mike, it's very
16 important. These two villages here, two rivers, they never
17 have this kind of experience before. That's why that I'd
18 like to urge state and federal make sure these people
19 understand. If it's going to be enforced by the
20 enforcement, what your decision is. Mary?

21
22 MS. GREGORY: No.

23
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) Lester.

25
26 MR. L. WILDE: Coming back, I'm sorry, but
27 I've had a question coming back to the Yukon River, the two
28 36-hour. Is it possible, is that the two timetables, are
29 they set in stone? Is it possible for like the refuge
30 information technicians to go out and interview the
31 villages to see what preference they have in the hours that
32 they can go and get their subsistence? Is there a
33 possibility for them to go out and col -- or anybody to go
34 out and collect this information from the villages, and
35 make sure that the villages understand just exactly what is
36 coming down.....

37
38 MR. RIORDEN: Well, I think both you
39 and.....

40
41 MR. L. WILDE:before somebody starts
42 chiseling it into the stone and say, okay, this is law,
43 this is the way it's going to be?

44
45 MR. RIORDEN: The Yukon guys need to answer
46 that as far as the time schedule, but both you and Harry
47 bring up a really good point that I think that we all
48 understand that communicating this to the public is
49 probably the most important thing we have to do. If we
50 don't do that, nothing is going to work obviously, so.....

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1 MR. L. WILDE: Well, the communication's
2 got to go both ways.

3
4 MR. RIORDEN: Right. So I'll let these
5 guys answer that as far as the scheduling on the.....

6
7 MR. MALLARD: I think on the Yukon River,
8 Tom explain it earlier, that we're trying to find periods
9 that everyone's familiar with at the present time as far as
10 subsistence fishing, and I don't think anything is really
11 ingrained in stone at this point in time.

12
13 MR. VANIA: The only thing that's ingrained
14 in stone is the two 36-hour periods. Now, what days of the
15 days of the week and what times of the days are open.

16
17 MR. L. WILDE: There is no possibility of
18 cutting those 36-hour periods in half?

19
20 MR. VANIA: We can go less than that, but
21 we can't go more than that.

22
23 MR. L. WILDE: You can't go more than 72
24 hours a week?

25
26 MR. VANIA: Correct.

27
28 MR. L. WILDE: So therefore you can take --
29 spread out that 72 hours with three or four 12-hour
30 periods, instead of two 36-hour periods?

31
32 MR. VANIA: No, we cannot do that.

33
34 MR. MALLARD: I believe what the attempt is
35 is to try to allow a pulse of fish pass through
36 unrestricted. If you had these 12-hour period, you're
37 going to be hammering.....

38
39 MR. VANIA: Right. You know, for instance,
40 the rapids, they have two 48-hour periods. Well, I'm sure
41 the (indiscernible) fishermen would love to have that
42 broken down to 12-hour periods all week long. Well, that's
43 defeating the purpose of creating windows for fish to pass
44 through.

45
46 MR. L. WILDE: That can work both -- two
47 ways. That can work where you have a high level of fish
48 coming through. Your 12-hour periods will cut that 36
49 hours in half, and your -- the rest of those fish that we
50 would have caught within that 36-hour period passes and

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1 goes up river. The next 12-hours you have might not have
2 any fish. So it works both ways. It's not just a one-way
3 street.

4
5 MR. VANIA: It's hit or miss, because we
6 really don't know when the fish are going to be in the
7 area,.....

8
9 MR. L. WILDE: Right.

10
11 MR. VANIA:you know, so the thought
12 was to create a schedule which, if the fish are there,
13 they're there, if they're not, they're not. And you're
14 creating windows, you're creating opportunity for a pulse
15 of fish not to get hit by every village all the way up the
16 river like it has been in the past. And that's what a
17 schedule would do, which would create those kinds of
18 windows.

19
20 MR. L. WILDE: Well, it would seem like
21 that if you had -- I know this would never happen as long
22 as there's management and you know how to manage it, but if
23 in the event that you have a big run coming in, and this
24 36-hour period comes in on the lower Yukon, everybody
25 fishes that 36 hours and get all the fish, whereas if you
26 had a 12-hour period, you won't get as many fish, and you
27 have many more of the fish going up. So that works both
28 ways, you know, it -- you understand what I mean?

29
30 MR. MALLARD: Yes.

31
32 MR. VANIA: Oh, yeah.

33
34 MR. MALLARD: And this is exactly the type
35 of thing we come to you for.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary?

38
39 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I agree with Mr. Wilde.
40 Rather than getting a big -- a long period of time, you cut
41 them into spurts, then you have a chance of some of the
42 fish going up. And I know, like the elders were telling us
43 a little while ago, the winds have something to do with the
44 fish going up the river. I think we need to listen to them
45 very carefully, because this winter in this area it's been
46 a lot of southern wind, and that when that happens, the
47 fish will go. The fish will come in. Just because we're
48 saying we're not going to get fish, that's not going to
49 happen. These guys have been here for more than we -- you
50 and I, and they know, they've been experiencing all these

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1 things all their life, because they never go anywhere, and
2 you should, you know, take their word like Mr. Wilde was
3 saying, if I say I caught five, you've got to take my word
4 rather than look for -- always looking for paper, because
5 sometimes papers are made not right either. People.....

6
7 MR. MALLARD: Mary, I really hope you're
8 right. I really do.

9
10 MR. VANIA: I guess one thing about a
11 shorter period, too, is you have a lot of set net
12 fishermen, which you have to consider as well, whereas 12-
13 hour periods as you all know will be very difficult for set
14 netters.

15
16 MS. GREGORY: It's only a day and a half
17 that you're asking.

18
19 MR. VANIA: I know.

20
21 MR. L. WILDE: Well, that will have to go
22 out to the villages, and as you say, like you said, you
23 know, I hope you take that advice, after you ask for it,
24 and they give you that advice, I hope you take it into
25 consideration.

26
27 MR. VANIA: Right. I'll have to ask
28 around, but I think the intent of the Board was when it was
29 a 36-hour period, that it was a 36-hour period. Otherwise
30 they would have said.....

31
32 MS. GREGORY: Well, we.....

33
34 MR. VANIA:chop them up into, you
35 know, five 12-hour periods or.....

36
37 MS. GREGORY: I think.....

38
39 MR. L. WILDE: I understand.

40
41 MR. VANIA: I'll make sure I get some
42 clarification on that.

43
44 MR. L. WILDE: I understand that, yeah.

45
46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Mary.

47
48 MS. GREGORY: I was just going to say if
49 you're looking for something, you're looking for advice
50 from us, and we're giving you advice, you go back to the

00276

1 Board and say this is what the Y-K RAC said to me to relay
2 to you. I think they would listen.

3
4 MR. SAVAGE: Mr. Chairman?

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mike.

7
8 MR. SAVAGE: Thinking about this 36-hour
9 period here in the Yukon, what are the possibilities of the
10 Kuskokwim doing that in the future? I mean, right now the
11 Kuskokwim is very lucky they're getting four days.

12
13 MS. GREGORY: Because we're not having a
14 commercial opening, that's why.

15
16 MR. SAVAGE: Yeah. Isn't the Yukon getting
17 a commercial, too? I mean, are -- is the Yukon commercial
18 fishing.....

19
20 MS. GREGORY: That's what I understand.
21 You're not.

22
23 MR. SAVAGE: I mean, we have no commercial
24 fishing.

25
26 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

27
28 MR. SAVAGE: Okay. You're going to have
29 the same problem you're having here if you do that in the
30 Kuskokwim River. I mean each village is going to be -- you
31 know, you'll have the same problem, because these guys out
32 here from Bethel on down, Akiak, -- from Tuluksak on down
33 to the Kuskokwim -- the mouth of the Kuskokwim, they've got
34 that tide they work with. From Lower Kalskag on up, they
35 don't have that tide. It depends on what comes in at the
36 mouth. It depends on the wind.

37
38 MR. RIORDEN: You know, the one thing I
39 think we need to all keep in mind is the reason these
40 restrictions are proposed like this is to reduce the
41 harvest. So if we start trying to put them in the places
42 where we're going to maximize harvest, then we're going to
43 defeat the purpose of this, and I'm -- frankly, I'll be
44 honest with you. When I -- I was -- I got to be on the
45 committee, as were several other people in here, that
46 helped make this plan, this rebuilding plan, and my
47 recommendation actually was to have less fishing than four
48 days a week, because I don't believe that four days a week
49 in itself is going to reduce the subsistence harvest in the
50 Kuskokwim, because the majority of it's drift fishing on

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1 the lower part. Eighty percent of the total harvest of
2 subsistence fish on the Kuskokwim is between the mouth of
3 the river and Kalskag. Eighty percent. So, you know,
4 that's the key area that we've got to deal with, and if we
5 even have just four days a week fishing, I don't think --
6 right now Bethel alone is taking nearly 25,000 king salmon
7 every year. that's gone up from about 16 or 15,000 in the
8 1980s. So the population of Bethel -- and frankly a lot of
9 the reason why we want to propose having the opener Monday
10 through Thursday, I'll be real honest with you, is to try
11 to eliminate the doctors and the lawyers and the who are
12 out there having a good time on weekends and fishing. They
13 catch a lot of fish. So if we have it Monday through
14 Thursday, we'd be addressing people who live in fish camps.
15 They fish Monday -- they don't care what day of the week it
16 is. And people who really need the fish are going to go
17 out and get them during those times. But we need to reduce
18 the harvest if we're going to get that escapement that we
19 need to get our fish back in the future. So, you know, I'm
20 a little concerned about the desire to, you know, well,
21 we're going to maximize it so we can really get the fish we
22 need, well, that's not what we need to be doing. We need
23 to -- we need to cut down some.

24
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Some more on Kuskokwim?
26 (In Yup'ik) How about Yukon River? Before we close both
27 of these rivers, while these guys are sitting, we've got
28 one person who want to have testify. He come over 60 miles
29 and he's the city manager of Emmonak, and his name is
30 Martin B. Moore. Go over here.

31
32 MR. MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and
33 members of the Board.

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

36
37 MR. MOORE: (In Yup'ik) Martin B. Moore.

38
39 INTERPRETER: He's Martin B. Moore.

40
41 MR. MOORE: And I'm here on my own expense,
42 on my own behalf of my family on subsistence issues
43 concerning the other people in the Yukon. I want to talk
44 about the subsistence issue affecting Y-1, 2 and 3. And I
45 want people in Kotlik to understand just exactly what's
46 happening. During the Board of Fisheries in Anchorage this
47 year, the Board of Fisheries make certain policies and
48 regulations that we must abide by this year.

49
50 This year Y-1, 2 and 3, we will be limited

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1 to subsistence fish to two 36-hour periods. That's three
2 days. To identify those days, looking at the calendar, the
3 calendar, this is how many days you will fish, subsist fish
4 this year according to the new policy and regulation
5 established by the Board of Fisheries. This year in June,
6 you will fish 12 days, not more than 12 days. Before that,
7 we were able to fish seven day a week. So it's important
8 for you to know that this new regulation now, if you take a
9 look at this calendar. Twelve days. And in July 15 days.
10 That's how -- before that, you used to be able to fill the
11 whole calendar. With the new regulations, it's less than
12 half. Less than half of the time you used to commercial --
13 used to subsist fish. All you -- if the fish don't come,
14 and you only fish 12 days in June, you're going to have to
15 work real hard.

16
17 But in Y-4, at Holy Cross and that area,
18 they'll be -- in June they'll be able to fish 18 days.
19 That's in -- I mean, that's in July. Eighteen days. And
20 in June 16 days. And from Koyukuk -- in Koyukuk, from
21 Koyukuk upriver, they will be seven days, the whole
22 calendar. Seven days a week. And we will only be fishing
23 half -- less than half the month in both July -- in both
24 July -- June and July.

25
26 Now, I'm here because I heard that there is
27 going to be a new regulation to even further cut the number
28 of days that we are going to be able to subsist fish for
29 king salmon, because the upriver, Interior, want to catch
30 more of those first kings that are into the Yukon River,
31 and it will be less than this if that happens. Last year a
32 lot of the people were not able to subsist fish in July,
33 part of July and August. All the way to September. If
34 they -- if the Federal Board further cuts the number of
35 fish that we're going to subsist, and cut this down to
36 maybe about that much, that many days of fishing? I don't
37 know, one, two, three four, five days. If they were to
38 practice that, we're going to be -- we're going to have no
39 food. That's why if the state is saying with these new
40 regulations we're going to have to live with, and that --
41 and like this, we're going to be really hurting and
42 suffering.

43
44 I have records, you know, here describing
45 1961 to 1989. The average number of commercial fish we
46 used to catch in the lower Yukon River, that was 109,856
47 kings. And from 1990 to 1999, the average catch was 98,680
48 kings. Our average catch for subsistence for the same
49 years from '61 to 1989, 127,102. And from 1990 to 1999,
50 the average was 51,921 kings. This year, this year from

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1 mouth of Yukon River to the Canadian border we'll be
2 dividing 45,000 to 66,000 kings. And we'll have a chance,
3 we'll have a chance, we'll have two 36-hour periods, and if
4 the fish don't come, you know, they're going -- once they
5 pass the sonar, they're gone. Might say bye-bye. So if
6 you amend this state regulations more and let the
7 escapement of first kings, where we already sacrifice four
8 days a week, we're saying to the upriver people, look,
9 you're taking four days every week, so that the fish could
10 escape. Now you're asking us again, we want to take some
11 of those first kings that they're coming in, I want you to
12 let them pass. Don't even think of fishing, when we're
13 already sacrificing four days, and we haven't -- nobody's
14 proven that this theory, that no fish is going to come
15 here. I think it would be immature for this board to
16 further cut what is already cut for subsistence. That's
17 the most important thing that people know here. They
18 cannot eat without dry fish. They won't survive without
19 dry fish. The state level (ph) is (indiscernible), the
20 state already take four days away. Twelve days of fishing.
21 Who's going to make a living for the rest of the winter to
22 feed their families in 12 days in June? I think I make my
23 point, that subsistence is important. I'm not covering the
24 commercial part.

25
26 On top of that, only one more point. One
27 more point. The Board of Fisheries, State of -- has
28 ultimate authority. If the fish isn't coming in in this
29 allocated base for us to fish, they could cut this off by
30 their own authority. The Board of Fisheries has already
31 protection clause to protect and conserve the fish that's
32 coming in, if the fish isn't going to be returning. So why
33 worry some more? Why take -- why use that for an excuse to
34 take some more of that fish that we're going to try to put
35 in our table to feed our children. Those are the points I
36 want for all of you to remember. Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Martin?

39
40 MR. MOORE: Yes.

41
42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Do you think it would
43 be worthwhile if that decision from federal because of we
44 are federal advisory committee over here, if we could tell
45 federal and the state together go to the villages and tell
46 us what may happen this summer, we cannot tell our people,
47 you know. I think it would be worthwhile if they come over
48 to villages. Maybe in Emmonak before fishing season open,
49 do you think it would be worth it to have a meeting down
50 there?

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1 MR. MOORE: If the people understand these
2 new regulations, I think you'll find out that you'll have
3 more input, and there will be people that are going to be
4 telling you how important it is. And I think they're going
5 to turn to you as the subsistence people to really
6 understand what subsistence is and what kind of regulation
7 you should come up with even if you have to do change the
8 state regulation to make it all happen, to protect the
9 subsistence issues that are related to their livelihood. I
10 think you'll understand it more, and you'd be down there
11 talking with them. It's real hard for us to go to
12 Anchorage and tell them by cutting four days off of your
13 daily catch for your food, they don't understand. But I
14 think the Federal Board by coming to these people will
15 really understand how important, and what priority
16 subsistence is in their daily lives. Everyday life. All
17 through winter long. I just got done eating a dry fish.
18 That was the best meal I had all day. These people cannot
19 live without dry fish. And if you go down and tell them,
20 hey, I'm going to take one-half a month of your food from
21 the table, and you make them understand, I think -- they
22 don't know this, they don't understand the new regulations,
23 but it affects their life. Every day life. Their
24 children's food. And once they understand, you know,
25 you're going to find out maybe too late, maybe it will be
26 too late if you don't go out there and talk with them.

27
28 I think you'll understand that these people
29 here are just as concerned, and they'll say sustained yield
30 is important, that we let the fish escape so they return
31 again. They're not going to commit suicide by taking more
32 than what they need. Once they understand that, and they
33 understand you, you're going to communicate together to
34 preserve the fish so -- like I just told you, 29 years it's
35 been preserved, right? Every year we catch 190,000 kings
36 for 29 years, because the state helped us protect it, we
37 had everything we want on dry fish for the last -- 1961
38 through 1980, we had all the dry fish we want. We had
39 enough to do commercial fishing. And we should -- if we
40 already proven that, then I think we should sit down, and
41 we just start talking about how to protect that subsistence
42 fishery. Because as I tell you, if they didn't catch
43 enough fish to put on the table, I'm not talking about
44 commercial fishing. I'm talking about food. A lot of the
45 people cannot survive.

46
47 I know that in Wade Hampton (ph) district
48 46 percent of that money comes from transfer of funds.
49 That's welfare money. And 44 percent of that is from
50 salmon -- commercial fish. There's going to be no more

00281

1 commercial fishing. That 46 percent transfer of funds is
2 going to become like 90 percent. With people, no money in
3 their pockets. That's what's going to happen. Because
4 that -- fish for eating food, make the dry fish is the
5 number one priority. They cannot survive -- I know they
6 cannot survive.

7
8 I know that we only got 8,000 kings last
9 year. There's something happening with our fisheries. But
10 if we -- I know that we've already lost our commercial
11 fishing. Now we're down to subsistence. That's a hard
12 issue. I think the Federal Board, if you're really
13 subsistence people, if you really understand the people,
14 then you've got to interpret these laws that are going to
15 be affecting their life. You know, it just isn't taking
16 somebody's job away. They're taking food out of your table
17 for your children. That's what -- that's what we're
18 talking about. And if you do something without them
19 understanding it, I don't think they -- I think they lose
20 faith in the Federal Subsistence Board.

21
22 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

23
24 MR. MOORE: Yeah, thank you.

25
26 MR. L. WILDE: Martin, you do understand
27 that we are not the Board. You -- I hope you understand
28 that we are only advisory to the Board. There is so much
29 we can do, and we will do whatever we can to do to help our
30 people, you know. We are not the Board.

31
32 That 36-hour period is something that we
33 can't -- we could probably fish if we work hard enough, but
34 that's a mandate from the state, not from the federal
35 government.

36
37 MR. MOORE: There's one man that never quit
38 just because somebody tell me, I'm a new board and I'm
39 different. The real thing is those people need to eat to
40 survive. Their children need to survive. And we depend on
41 you as advisory people to let the government, federal
42 government understand this issue. And that the state
43 government really get down to the people and let them talk
44 like me. Let us be simple people and make them understand
45 how important it is to have dry fish whole winter long.

46
47 MR. SAVAGE: Martin?

48
49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mike.

50

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1 MR. SAVAGE: Martin, I've got a question.
2 What do your community think about sport fishing?

3
4 MR. MOORE: Sport fishing?

5
6 MR. SAVAGE: Yeah.

7
8 MR. MOORE: I look at sport fishing over
9 here, they're only a small portion of what we've been
10 getting. It's not very large. But if they only play
11 around with that fish, then I say don't let the sportsmens
12 take the fish, netting it and then throw it away. That's
13 not the way. If that's what they're going to do, stop
14 them. We don't play with animals. If they want --
15 sportsman want to take that fish, give it to a native or
16 eat it themself, that would be fine. But for them to play
17 around with it, not the way. But I look at those numbers,
18 they're not very much. 2,061.

19
20 MR. SAVAGE: That's in this area, right?

21
22 MR. MOORE: Yeah, sports fisherman.
23 They're a small number, but I don't want those people to
24 play around with the fish. Or anyone -- or not even us.

25
26 MR. SAVAGE: Quyana.

27
28 MR. MOORE: Doy.

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana, Martin. John?

31
32 MR. HAMILTON: My name's Ted Hamilton. And
33 I've got a question about that.....

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Will you come over here
36 and say your name so it would be entered into the record?

37
38 MR. HAMILTON: Yeah, my name's Ted
39 Hamilton, and I'm wondering about that 36-hour period for
40 subsistence. When is it going to start? Is it going to
41 start as soon as the ice breaks, or is it going to start on
42 June 1st or what?

43
44 MR. HANSON: Maybe July 1.

45
46 MR. HAMILTON: I hope so.

47
48 MR. VANIA: We're looking at starting
49 around the 1st of June. And then for the upper river
50 areas, say starting at Y-4, it would be several weeks

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1 later. They're schedule wouldn't start until about June
2 15th. And the thought there is that the salmon isn't there
3 anyway, why not offer them some opportunity to catch
4 resident species that are there, sheefish or whitefish or
5 pike, whatever. So we wouldn't start the schedule until
6 the salmon are just about to arrive, and then that's --
7 because you want to save the salmon, so that's when it
8 would -- we're looking at starting.

9
10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more? Monty.

11
12 MR. MALLARD: Yeah, I thought Martin did a
13 very fine job there. Your input has been very important to
14 me today. It really has. And there's a lot more villages
15 needed to be contacted, so hopefully you don't think any
16 decision has necessarily been made today. And your input,
17 other village inputs, other federal and state employees,
18 all of us will be talking about what we've heard here
19 today. So anyway, I congratulate Martin for a nice
20 presentation, and we're here to -- all of us are here to
21 answer any additional questions you may have.

22
23 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I would like
24 to please ask you to make sure that the people out in the
25 village understand just exactly what's going on. They've
26 got to understand. You've got to make them understand one
27 way or the other, and we could help you as much as we can.

28
29 MR. MALLARD: Well, we intend to do that.
30 I really do, Lester. And quite honestly, Mr. Chair, what
31 Martin had to say about people needing their dry fish, that
32 they will not survive without dry fish, the same thing
33 occurs all up and down the river, and they really -- there
34 are some opportunities at Kaltag and Tanana and Ruby and
35 Fort Yukon and Eagle, essentially, you know, the same
36 comments come from them. And we want to try to get dry
37 fish to them also. And it's a matter of trying to figure
38 out -- with all of us trying to figure out the best way to
39 do that.

40
41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Carl Jack, we want to
42 give you information, because you are liaison to chairman
43 of Subsistence Board. You could tell the chairman of the
44 Board we need all the employees of -- managing the Yukon
45 and Kuskokwim go all to the village and make sure, let the
46 people understand. We want to give you that to pass it to
47 the chairman of the Board.

48
49 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman. Yeah, Mr.
50 Chairman, you've just stated what I had intended to do, and

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1 I would like to thank those people that testified, because
2 those -- I've taken very, hopefully very good notes, and
3 certainly I will convey this to the chairman when I get
4 back. Thank you.

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Hanson?

7
8 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9 Yeah, Carl, (In Yup'ik). They can -- translators can say
10 it in English. I think I speak better when I talk in my
11 own tongue to my own people, and they can understand. (In
12 Yup'ik) Kotlik, Emmonak, Alakanak, Sheldon's Point,
13 Mountain Village, all the way up to Holy Cross, (In Yup'ik)

14
15 INTERPRETER: That if assignment from our
16 chairman, is this assignment that he want you to go to
17 Kotlik, Emmonak, or Alakanak, Sheldon's Point, all the way
18 up to Holy Cross. These villages. This real assignment,
19 you need to inform these villages how the incidents and
20 their activities that you heard yesterday and today. We
21 want to hear from these villages of what we are to do to
22 handle this issue. And I would also suggest that you put
23 this in writing and let this Board know.

24
25 MR. TEELUK: Billy Teeluk. (In Yup'ik)

26
27 INTERPRETER: This is Billy Teeluk. I want
28 to talk in Yup'ik, because it's my language This 36-hours,
29 if I don't follow it, and if I catch -- if I went out
30 fishing and get more (indiscernible), what happens? What
31 happens to me? And I'm not the only one.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

34
35 MR. TEELUK: You know, as far back as I can
36 remember, we have season that we collect our food and the
37 best time I know is springtime to dry fish. What will you
38 do to me if I went out and I hear of someone catching fish
39 in Yukon, and I would go when -- that's what I usually do
40 is, go to my camp and start fishing. Because the fish
41 aren't going to wait for that 36 hours where you guys need
42 to -- they wouldn't wait for me. They'd just go by,
43 because during that time, springtime most important for me
44 to dry fish. Summer, middle of the summer it starts
45 raining, and we don't rain -- I mean, dry fish, and she
46 knows that, and water spoils our fish right away. So what
47 would happen, should I call you guys, I'm going to fish
48 anyway, regardless of your 36 hours. It's like that woman,
49 she wants to fish, but she's stuck with your time. What
50 would you do?

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1 MS. GREGORY: Mister.....

2

3 MR. TEELUK: Would you send a State Trooper
4 or somebody to pick us up? Have you ever thought of that?
5 Do you think that we're going to follow that 36 hours?

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

8

9 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman?

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Mary?

12

13 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Teeluk?

14

15 MR. TEELUK: Ee-ee.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

18

19 MR. TEELUK: (In Yup'ik)

20

21 INTERPRETER: They would like to listen to
22 you.

23

24 MS. GREGORY: I told him before that the
25 date and time comes -- I don't think they have any
26 business.....

27

28 MR. TEELUK: That's.....

29

30 MS. GREGORY:telling you what to do.

31

32 MR. TEELUK: That's one thing that these
33 people would be afraid of. (In Yup'ik)

34

35 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh.

36

37 MR. TEELUK: They come -- because they
38 never come around and told us first they want -- they
39 should have come in here and let us hear what they've got
40 to say first. (In Yup'ik)

41

42 INTERPRETER: They don't -- these people
43 don't understand. Without even consulting the people.
44 Without even consulting people, they make these rules which
45 affect us. When we're here, that fishes in the river, we
46 cannot wait around. We know. And our ancestors always say
47 if you wait around, you're going to miss out.

48

49 MR. J. MIKE: My name is Joe Mike. I think
50 all of you know I'm Joe Mike. I won't need to turn my

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1 television (ph) tonight. After this I resign.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 MR. J. MIKE: Okay. We're going to have
6 problem on subsistence fishing, and what I'm thinking to do
7 is if anybody want to -- if anybody goes subsistence
8 fishing before the two 36-hours, before our summertime
9 comes, I'm going to ask AVCP attorney before any officers
10 from Fish and Wildlife or state come to Kotlik, that tribal
11 court take care of the people before State Troopers come.
12 I'm going to ask AVCP attorney by maybe tomorrow if that
13 could be done. And we could solve this problem on
14 subsistence at local level with tribal court.

15

16 I'm going to make one more comment which
17 happened the other night. Before we went to bed I told my
18 guests, let's have tea (ph) before we go to bed, and let's
19 have dry fish before we go to bed. And my wife told Harry
20 Wilde, you have dry fish right now, maybe by next year you
21 won't have dry fish.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) Who want
24 to testify? Anybody?

25

26 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman?

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

29

30 MR. JACK: Yeah. My name is Carl Jack. I
31 may be out of line with respect to the fact that I'm a
32 federal employee now, but one of the reasons why there is a
33 lack of full participation of Alaska natives in the
34 management of fish and game is because we as Alaska natives
35 have different political status to those of other
36 countries. I'm mentioning Canada whose indigenous people
37 as the gentleman from the state mentioned, called them
38 aborigines, have guaranteed to their subsistence rights,
39 and that is written in the Canadian constitution. So they
40 don't have to worry about these kind of issues that the
41 Alaska natives are facing now. When you look at Greenland,
42 they have a home rule government where the people
43 themselves do the management of their fish and game.

44

45 So until such time there's full recognition
46 on indigenous people of Alaska to be able to participate on
47 equal basis with the so-called competent authorities,
48 namely United States government and the State of Alaska, I
49 believe that we will continue to see the inability of these
50 government to delegate the management authority to Alaska

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1 natives or any people in rural Alaska. So that is
2 something that perhaps that the Alaska native communities
3 should look at as an option, and I think the managers, the
4 competent authorities, the government and the state will
5 welcome the participation, full participation of the Alaska
6 natives in these, because on the long run, if people buy
7 into the system, it will obviate any conflicts that may
8 develop with regards to enforcement issues, all of those.
9 I just want to make some points that I believe that are
10 important and worthwhile to think about. Quyana.

11
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Carl. Mary,
13 got note here to pass it to you in English and Gussack and
14 Yup'ik. (In Yup'ik)

15
16 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh. What I just got, we
17 passed the hat for the family of Gabriel Sinka (ph), well,
18 the family of Gabriel Sinka thanks you all for the
19 donation. (In Yup'ik)

20
21 And also I have another special
22 announcement to make. Today is Theresa's birthday. Let's
23 all sing Happy Birthday to Theresa. Everybody stand up and
24 stretch.

25
26 IN UNISON: (Sing Happy Birthday)

27
28 MR. L. WILDE: Can we get a speech,
29 birthday speech?

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, and we've
32 got couple, three more items to work on.

33
34 MS. GREGORY: Five minute, ten minutes
35 break. (In Yup'ik)

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oh, you want.....

38
39 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman?

40
41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE:our secretary
42 wants a break, so we're going to give her that opportunity
43 maybe.....

44
45 MS. GREGORY: Ten minute break?

46
47 MR. L. WILDE: How many more subjects we've
48 got, Mr. Chairman?

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We've got three items

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1 to -- we'll be finished before ten. Ten minutes break.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Hello, hello, hello.

8 Next on our agenda is new business, new line from Canal to

9 -- I think our secretary here, we've got a proposal here

10 that she could read. Mary?

11

12 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

15

16 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

17

18 MR. HANSON: (In Yup'ik)

19

20 MR. L. WILDE: Pass it over here, I'll read

21 it.

22

23 MS. GREGORY: Let him read it. My eyes are

24 not there yet

25

26 MR. L. WILDE: Or John can read it.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, you guys, one of

29 you.

30

31 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, John can.

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead.

34

35 MR. HANSON: (In Yup'ik)

36

37 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

38

39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

40

41 MR. HANSON: You want me to read it?

42

43 MS. GREGORY: My eyes are fogged up.

44

45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

46

47 MR. HANSON: Okay. This is a proposal form

48 proposed by Kotlik Traditional Council, Kotlik, by Theodore

49 B. Teeluk.

50

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1 Number 1, what are you proposing to change?
2 Customary and traditional use determination for all fish in
3 the Norton Sound/Port Clarence Area, the residents of
4 Norton Sound, Port Clarence area villages, and Kotlik,
5 Emmonak, Alakanuk, and Nunam Iqua, which is Sheldon's
6 Point. The State Board of Fisheries recently changed the
7 Norton Sound/Port Clarence area boundary.

8
9 Number 2, how should the new regulation
10 read? All fish, except steelhead or rainbow trout,
11 residents of the Norton Sound/Port Clarence area, and
12 Kotlik, Emmonak, Alakanuk and Nunam Iqua, Sheldon's Point.

13
14 Number 3, why should this change be made?
15 To recognize and protect the residents customary and
16 traditional uses since time immemorial for the harvesting
17 of fish in the area south of Cape Denbigh. This proposal
18 will ensure the recognition and protection of customary and
19 traditional uses of fish for the above-named villages.

20
21 Number 4, what impact will this change have
22 on fish and shellfish populations? None anticipated. It's
23 a procedural housekeeping change and will not likely impact
24 the fish populations in this area, for no increased harvest
25 is expected to result.

26
27 Number 5, how will this change affect
28 subsistence users? None, because it's a housekeeping
29 proposal. It will recognize known customary and
30 traditional uses since time immemorial.

31
32 Number 6, which communities have used this
33 resource? When? Include time period if possible. Kotlik,
34 Emmonak, Alakanuk, Nunam Iqua, which is Sheldon's Point.

35
36 Number 7, where has the resource been
37 harvested? Include specific areas if known. Unalakleet
38 area, Cap Denbigh area, Pikkimiktalik River, I guess this is
39 Golovin. It says Golsovia River.

40
41 Number 8, when has the resource been
42 harvested? What months or seasons does harvest occur?
43 It's a blank.

44
45 Number 9, is there any additional
46 information that supports your proposal? This might
47 include current fish/shellfish population trends, how the
48 fish/shellfish are processed, how resources are shared,
49 what other resources are harvested by the community, how
50 knowledge of fish/shellfish is passed down, or any other

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1 information.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: Thank you, John.

4

5 MR. HANSON: (In Yup'ik)

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Vincent, how are
8 we going to support this or act. How are we going to use
9 it?

10

11 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, you don't need
12 to take any action on this proposal as far as saying yes or
13 no to it. You do have the option, if you want, to submit a
14 proposal just like this. What do I mean by that? If
15 multiple people or groups submit proposals on the same
16 subject, John knows what I'm talking about, the Board then
17 wakes up and says, this is a big -- this is a concern. But
18 you don't have to do that. You'll have this proposal and
19 its analysis, all the write-ups on it back before you at
20 your fall meeting. Okay. So that's the process, and I
21 believe there's another signator to this. I don't --
22 Laura's been the one that's been working with people
23 getting this write-up and background.

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay, Laura.

26

27 MS. JURGENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
28 Laura Jurgensen, Subsistence Management. Yeah, the --
29 again this was proposed during discussions of this meeting
30 by the Kotlik Traditional Council, the elders, and Theodore
31 B. Teeluk, or Billy Teeluk. And again you can also submit
32 the exact same one to support this proposal. And it would
33 be good if all the people or any visitors here tonight, if
34 they can add information to this as far as other areas,
35 where these communities fish in that area, again because of
36 this boundary change, if there are other communities
37 besides Kotlik, Emmonak, Nunam Iqua, and Alakanuk who fish
38 there. Again, things like if there's family exchange of
39 fish, anything that anyone would like to add, that would be
40 good, and again it could happen now or -- just as long as
41 it's in before March 30th.

42

43 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman. Laura?

44

45 MS. JURGENSEN: Yes.

46

47 MR. NICK: I would like to recommend one
48 minor change in the proposal. The first, I believe it's --
49 is it number 1? Right next to Nunam Iqua, bracket the --
50 change Sheldon's Point maybe to formerly Sheldon's Point.

00291

1 MS. JURGENSEN: Okay. I will do that.
2 Thank you.

3
4 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman?

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

7
8 MR. L. WILDE: I -- you know, all night
9 long I've been trying to get into my mind just exactly
10 where the boundary change, from where to where. Could
11 somebody for my own stupid head tell me where exactly that
12 new boundary line is, so that we all know what we're
13 talking about?

14
15 MR. MATTHEWS: We'll bring a map over here
16 that hopefully will straighten it out.

17
18 MS. GREGORY: Laura, (In Yup'ik)

19
20 MS. JURGENSEN: He's got it. Jerry will
21 point it out to you, he's the expert fishery biologist.

22
23 MS. GREGORY: Somebody please hold it up
24 for him?

25
26 MR. BERG: (Indiscernible) be here. Where
27 the boundary got switched to down here, the boundary line
28 now comes through here instead of up here. So this would
29 give these people in these communities customary and
30 traditional use determinations to use that area up in here.

31
32 MR. L. WILDE: Where was that line prior to
33 that?

34
35 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) Right there.

36
37 MR. BERG: This line -- this is where the
38 line was. The line is now -- the line now comes down
39 through here, right off Point Romanof.

40
41 MS. GREGORY: Right here.

42
43 MR. L. WILDE: Okay.

44
45 MR. BERG: So people from this area could
46 formerly have harvested in here, but now they're c&t is for
47 out of this area, so by giving them c&t in the whole area,
48 they would be able to use that area as they always have.
49 So it's just a paperwork exercise on our part really, just
50 to document their current -- their traditional practices.

00292

1 MR. HANSON: Okay. Now, that red line is
2 what?

3
4 MR. BERG: That's the old boundary line,
5 and they moved it down to Point Romanof, so now it comes
6 down to -- I think just about right here.

7
8 MR. HANSON: Who wants to change?

9
10 MR. BERG: Well, the Board of Fish already
11 changed it. They changed it at their January meeting. So
12 people in the northern Yukon area have c&t in here, but
13 they do not have c&t up here, so by adding these villages,
14 these four villages, they would have customary and
15 traditional use of this area up here for fish. It's only
16 for fish. And if there's other communities that we need to
17 add, we need to hear that. It would be good to add them
18 onto the proposal. But right now we've only added these
19 four villages.

20
21 MR. HANSON: (Indiscernible - simultaneous
22 speech)

23
24 MR. BERG: Use fish up here.

25
26 MR. HANSON: Even that red line, the old
27 line of Clarence (indiscernible) wildlife?

28
29 MR. BERG: I'm not sure about that.

30
31 MR. L. WILDE: Ask the refuge manager, he
32 should know.

33
34 MR. HANSON: Clarence (indiscernible)
35 wildlife refuge? Isn't that the red line?

36
37 MR. BERG: This is the Yukon area district
38 boundary as far as I know. It goes down this way. It
39 identifies the Yukon area district. It's not the northern
40 area district.

41
42 MR. HANSON: Because for years Stebbins,
43 St. Michael's wanted to fish inside that red line, even
44 when I was on the Fish Board, before I got on, but the Fish
45 Board kept telling them, no, you can't fish, because those
46 fish all coming to the Yukon.

47
48 MR. BERG: They wanted to fish down here?

49
50 MR. HANSON: And they have their fish camps

00293

1 in those creeks there, Pikmiktalik, Canal, and they could
2 go in there and fish for subsistence.

3
4 MR. BERG: Yes, (indiscernible -
5 simultaneous speech).

6
7 MR. HANSON: And I think if they make
8 proposal to change our boundary, it's probably St. Michaels
9 and Stebbins so they can fish in there.

10
11 MR. BERG: Right. Yeah. That's why they
12 changed that boundary, so that St. Michaels and Stebbins
13 could fish in those areas that they always traditionally
14 fished in. But when they did that, that also meant that
15 some of these -- the people in these areas that
16 traditionally fish up there would.....

17
18 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

19
20 MR. BERG:be left out of that area.
21 So by.....

22
23 MR. HANSON: Well, not just.....

24
25 MR. BERG:adding this proposal,.....

26
27 MR. HANSON:not just Emmonak, Nunam
28 Iqua, or Kotlik are also goes up there.

29
30 MR. BERG: Well, Emmonak, Alakanuk, Nunam
31 Iqua.

32
33 MR. HANSON: You know, when -- in January
34 the Board of -- the committee that I was with from Norton
35 Sound, they had St. Michael's and Stebbins there, they
36 moved just on the east side of Stebbins, the first creek
37 next to St. Michael's, the first little creek. From there
38 they moved the boundary over to this long one towards
39 Unalakleet. No, too far. You almost got -- yeah, right
40 there. You passed it. That first long creek, that's where
41 they moved the boundary. No.

42
43 MR. BERG: This one?

44
45 MR. HANSON: Right there, from there to
46 there, that's where (indiscernible - away from microphone)
47 they existed.

48
49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: That slough.

50

00294

1 MR. HANSON: Instead of this one.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: That slough is called
4 Souyia (ph), that's the name of the slough.

5

6 MR. HANSON: So this proposal here opposes
7 that.

8

9 MR. L. WILDE: No, it would give them
10 customary and traditional use.

11

12 MR. HANSON: I mean for subsistence they
13 can -- yeah, this is for subsistence. They can still go in
14 there.....

15

16 MR. BERG: They can (indiscernible - away
17 from microphone)

18

19 MR. HANSON:and subsist or to the
20 Yukon.

21

22 MR. BERG: Right. Yeah.

23

24 MR. HANSON: That's what people from --
25 some people from Stebbins and St. Michael's, they always go
26 to the Yukon and subsist.

27

28 MR. BERG: Yeah, the c&t for the Yukon
29 includes Stebbins and St. Michael's, but the c&t up here
30 for fish does not include these communities, so this
31 proposal will include these communities for c&t that use
32 this area for fish.

33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Joseph.

35

36 MR. J. MIKE: When we talked about this
37 boundary change, we talked about the proposal to shift the
38 boundary and those (indiscernible - away from microphone)
39 'cause people from (indiscernible) come to Yukon to do
40 subsistence (indiscernible) Nunam Iqua, Emmonak, Kotlik, we
41 go up there for fishery, too. That's how the proposal that
42 we're going to make today is going to be, but tomorrow
43 we'll work on the proposal to staff anyway. Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Okay.

46

47 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, Jerry and
48 Laura.....

49

50 MR. L. WILDE: Thanks, you guys.

00295

1 MR. NICK:there's something we almost
2 overlook in this proposal. We have people from Marshall,
3 St. Mary's maybe, Pilot Station, Mountain Village, that
4 goes up for herring fishing in that area, and they probably
5 do some subsistence fishing in that area during the
6 time.....

7
8 MR. BERG: In the river?

9
10 MR. NICK:during the time when the,
11 you know, herring gets closed or while they're waiting
12 there in spring time. We almost overlooked those
13 communities.

14
15 MR. BERG: So which ones?

16
17 MR. NICK: Marshall.....

18
19 MR. CHARLES: All the way down to the
20 mouth.

21
22 MR. NICK: All the way to the mouth. All
23 of those communities.

24
25 MR. BERG: From Marshall on down?

26
27 MR. NICK: Yeah.

28
29 MR. BERG: Okay. Good.

30
31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's under number 6.

32
33 MR. BERG: We'll add those to the proposal.

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Ann?

36
37 MS. KAMKOFF: Yeah, my name is Anna
38 Kamkoff. That boundary should be changed to where we
39 (indiscernible), because what they put here is -- it's not
40 good. 'Cause a lot of people all the way from St. Mary's
41 and from here, Stebbins and St. Michael, they always go
42 herring fishing. And so does some people always go up
43 there to go fish for their subsistence use. This should
44 have been changed from Kotlik all the way where we show
45 them, too. I'm going to include the elders (ph), when they
46 spawn, some people always go pick some herring eggs to dry
47 them up for winter use. That boundary is no good. It
48 should be fixed all the way to there where we showed it,
49 'cause I myself went up there to once go for subsistence
50 use for my winter supply with herring fish and dry them up.

00296

1 So it would be good if you could change it to where we
2 showed it. And that's all. Thank you.

3
4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So we won't take no
5 action on this proposal right now, because they've going to
6 put more information. It may even change some of it.
7 Joseph that say that the people going to work on it more.
8 So tonight it was presented just for the information
9 purposes. Okay.

10
11 MS. JURGENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
12 Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. So we let that
15 thing go that far.

16
17 MR. L. WILDE: Can I make one answer to
18 Ann? Anna, you know, that line, if you get -- if we get
19 that proposal into this book for customary and traditional
20 use of that area up there, that land -- that line won't
21 mean nothing to you then when you go subsistence fishing.
22 There will be no more line. You have customary and
23 traditional use. You could go up there and catch and take
24 the fish whenever you want, how far ever you want, as far
25 as you -- as far as your customary and traditional use
26 determination is in the book.

27
28 MS. KAMKOFF: (In Yup'ik)

29
30 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, even if that line is
31 there, if you get your customary and traditional use
32 determination, that line will disappear. It will just be
33 in the books.

34
35 MS. KAMKOFF: Will you tell me some more
36 what the (In Yup'ik).

37
38 INTERPRETER: Fish and Wildlife are not all
39 -- are individual representative of the Fish and Wildlife
40 Service are not -- are never the same. You never have --
41 they always have a different attitude as to what the uses
42 are or activities going on within this guidelines.

43
44 MR. L. WILDE: They still got to.....

45
46 MS. KAMKOFF: (In Yup'ik)

47
48 MR. L. WILDE: Yes. It will be in this
49 regulations, you know, and there.....

50

1 MS. KAMKOFF: I know they know the
2 regulations, but some fish and wildlife can come around and
3 say you can't pass that. I don't believe in that.

4
5 MR. L. WILDE: No, they can't do that.

6
7 MS. KAMKOFF: I don't believe in that.

8
9 MR. L. WILDE: They can't do that.

10
11 MS. KAMKOFF: (In Yup'ik)

12
13 MR. L. WILDE: Okay.

14
15 MS. KAMKOFF: (In Yup'ik)

16
17 INTERPRETER: Some would say that you can't
18 go beyond that line. And perhaps some people will be
19 affected or may be forced to go back below the line or
20 whatever.

21
22 MR. L. WILDE: Okay.

23
24 MS. KAMKOFF: (In Yup'ik)

25
26 INTERPRETER: She said she also understand.
27 All of the representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
28 Service never have the same attitude. (Indiscernible)
29 what? What? What happens after that line goes into
30 effect. See what happens.

31
32 MR. L. WILDE: If you hear of anybody doing
33 that to you when you get your determination, you let
34 somebody know, and we'll make sure we correct it.

35
36 MS. KAMKOFF: Okay. I will.

37
38 MR. L. WILDE: All right.

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more on that new
41 line? If there's not, we'll go into last -- next agenda,
42 resolutions. Vince, you have those resolutions?

43
44 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I
45 passed out earlier, and for those in the audience, there's
46 extra copies up here. This is resolution that the two
47 representatives from your council and Alex Nick brought to
48 the joint meeting of the Eastern and Western Interior. And
49 I think it's easy for me to read it so you can understand.

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

2
3 MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you. This is a letter
4 from the Yukon -- if you agree to it, but this is the way
5 the letter is written. Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Western
6 Interior, and Eastern Interior Subsistence Regional
7 Advisory Councils, to Mr. Frank Rue, Commissioner, to Mr.
8 Mitch Demientieff, Chairman of the Federal Subsistence
9 Board.

10
11 Dear Commissioner Rue and Chairman
12 Demientieff, as appointed representatives of the
13 subsistence users for Interior and Western Alaska, we
14 respectfully submit this resolution to you for
15 consideration during in-season management actions this
16 coming summer. We recognize it may be necessary to take
17 significant actions this summer to conserve our salmon runs
18 for future generations and feel that that -- feel that the
19 burden of these conservation measures should be shared by
20 everyone using this resource. Please review our request in
21 the attached resolution and provide appropriate direction
22 for your in-season fishery management staff.

23
24 Resolution 01-2001. Whereas, chinook and
25 chum salmon have been determined to be stocks of concern in
26 the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers; and

27
28 Whereas, the Alaska Board of Fisheries has
29 established salmon escapement goals, amounts necessary for
30 subsistence; and

31
32 Whereas, the primary objectives of the
33 salmon rebuilding plan is to meet escapement goals, and
34 subsistence needs,

35
36 Therefore be it resolved, we the members of
37 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Western Interior and Eastern
38 Interior Federal Regional Advisory Councils respectfully
39 request that the state and federal governments do
40 everything possible to ensure salmon escapement and
41 subsistence needs are met on the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers
42 in 2001.

43
44 Be it further resolved, that specifically
45 we request that if becomes necessary to completely close
46 any subsistence salmon fishery along the Yukon or Kuskokwim
47 rivers, that immediate action be taken to simultaneously
48 close all Area M commercial salmon fishing.

49
50 At the joint meeting of the Western and

00299

1 Eastern Interior on March 9th, the Western Interior passed
2 this resolution by a vote of seven to zero with two absent,
3 the Eastern Interior in joint session passed this
4 resolution by a vote of five to zero with four absent. And
5 that's the two joint councils requested I bring this
6 resolution to you, back to you for your support and
7 signature if you so desire.

8
9 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
10 Yeah, I'd like to make a motion at the bottom here on the
11 first page.

12
13 MR. L. WILDE: Amending.

14
15 MR. HANSON: Or amend, amendment. Make a
16 motion to amend, where it says taken simul.....

17
18 MR. NICK: Simultaneously.

19
20 MS. GREGORY: Vince, Mr. Hanson has the
21 floor.

22
23 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes. Sorry.

24
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, John.

26
27 MR. HANSON: I want to make a motion to
28 amend Area M and put the wording simultaneously close all
29 migration routes starting from Baren Island, Shelikof
30 Straits, Chignik, Popof Island, Shumigan Island, and Unimak
31 Island. That will take care of Area M, and that will take
32 care of the Kodiak fishermen that's behind Kodiak on the
33 one that they call Shelikof Straits. So if we scratch off
34 Area M, at the end of Unimak Island would come commercial
35 salmon fishing.

36
37 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I second his
38 motion for purpose of discussion. (In Yup'ik)

39
40 MR. HANSON: Uh-huh.

41
42 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

43
44 MR. HANSON: (In Yup'ik)

45
46 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

47
48 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

49
50 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to get

00300

1 advice from Vince and Mr. Fleener. I think proper
2 procedure would be to make a motion to adopt the resolution
3 and then before you pass the main motion, someone make
4 motion to amend.

5
6 MR. L. WILDE: You are so correct. You're
7 absolutely right.

8
9 MR. NICK: So, Mr. Chairman, maybe.....

10
11 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John?

14
15 MR. HANSON: Okay. I was not thinking too
16 well here. Yeah, I make a adopt.....

17
18 MS. GREGORY: First you have to withdraw
19 your motion.

20
21 MR. HANSON:resolution 01-2001

22
23 MR. L. WILDE: I'll second the motion.

24
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: That's for the

26 amendment?

27
28 MR. L. WILDE: No, for the motion.

29
30 MS. GREGORY: Motion's first.

31
32 MR. L. WILDE: For the motion, for the

33 resolution.

34
35 MR. HANSON: Resolution 01-2001.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. And seconded by

38 Lester.

39
40 MR. HANSON: That's the resolution.

41
42 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

43
44 MR. L. WILDE: To adopt resolution.

45
46 MS. GREGORY: Adopt it.

47
48 MR. HANSON: To adopt the resolution 01-
49 2001.

50

00301

1 MS. GREGORY: To adopt.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: No, you can move to amend
4 and discussion. Now move to amend.

5

6 MS. GREGORY: John.

7

8 MR. NICK: Then what I think.....

9

10 MR. HANSON: Then that's my amendment.

11

12 MR. NICK: Then what might be appropriate
13 is to open it for discussion, and.....

14

15 MR. HANSON: Oh, yeah, discussion first.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

18

19 MR. NICK:and then -- Are we going
20 right direction, Mr. Fleener?

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, we're going.....

23

24 MR. NICK: Okay.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE:right direction.

27

28 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I move to amend
29 (In Yup'ik) the second resolve. (In Yup'ik)

30

31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on the
32 floor to amend. If there's any second to the motion?

33

34 MR. L. WILDE: I second.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a second. And
37 now read amendment.

38

39 MR. NICK: Do you have that written down?

40

41 MR. MATTHEWS: We didn't catch all of it,
42 that's why we were consulting, but I think the easy way out
43 of this is that it's -- he can read it over again, or that
44 you would allow the motion to be that we, the staff will
45 capture the full wording of Mr. Hanson and will incorporate
46 it with his approval into this resolution.

47

48 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, my amendment is
49 such.

50

00302

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: Going down to Yukon or
4 Kuskokwim Rivers that immediate action be taken to
5 simultaneously close all migration routes starting from
6 Baren Island. Was it Baren Island? Shelikof Strait,
7 Chignik, (In Yup'ik)

8

9 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Popof Island.

10

11 MS. GREGORY: Popof Island, Shumigan Island
12 and.....

13

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Unimak.

15

16 MS. GREGORY: Unimak Island. Between the
17 word all and area. (In Yup'ik)

18

19 MR. SAVAGE: Did somebody second it?

20

21 MR. HANSON: That amendment would replace
22 Area M.

23

24 MS. GREGORY: 'Cause.....

25

26 MR. HANSON: But they'll be included.

27

28 MS. GREGORY: That's.....

29

30 MR. HANSON: And I think we should -- Mr.
31 Chairman, I think we should put in down.....

32

33 MS. GREGORY: So be it therefore.

34

35 MR. HANSON:right after the Unimak
36 Island is commercial salmon fishing, maybe it would be
37 appropriate if we put all commercial fleets in the
38 migration route should be put into bays. Then they could
39 fish their own fish, but not the ones going to Western
40 Alaska. That would take care of -- what the Board of Fish
41 did, they took the chum cap off. That would take care of
42 it. They can fish their own chums, their own sockeyes.
43 Otherwise if we don't hook up this migration route, without
44 the chum cap, they can catch 2 million chums, and that's
45 for sure. And there'll be no chums come into the Yukon or
46 Kuskokwim.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more discussion to
49 the amendment?

50

00303

1 MS. GREGORY: John, (In Yup'ik).

2

3 MR. MATTHEWS: Did somebody.....

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Matthews?

6

7 MR. MATTHEWS: Did we get a second to the
8 amendment?

9

10 MS. GREGORY: Yes, we did.

11

12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, we do. We did.

13

14 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay. Thank you.

15

16 MR. SAVAGE: Oh, somebody second it? I
17 second it. Did somebody second it already?

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Already have been
20 second.

21

22 MR. SAVAGE: Okay. All right.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more discussion to
25 the amendment?

26

27 MR. L. WILDE: Question.

28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question's been called
30 for to the amendment. All who favor it say aye?

31

32 IN UNISON: Aye.

33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed, same sign?

35

36 (No opposing votes.)

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. Now
39 the main. Any further discussion to the main motion?

40

41 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Craig
42 Fleener, Fort Yukon. I think it would be good if you -- if
43 this motion passes, that you send it back to the Eastern
44 and Western Interior just to get their concurrence since
45 they had their signatures on the original resolution.
46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more discussion to
49 the main motion? Yeah, go ahead.

50

00304

1 MR. HAMILTON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, my name's
2 Ted Hamilton from Emmonak. And I'm kind of wondering, the
3 State of Alaska has jurisdiction in the three-mile area,
4 why do we have to go to the North Pacific Council to get
5 them to reduce our chinook salmon catches in our -- in the
6 migration routes?

7
8 MR. NICK: Tom Vania maybe can make
9 response to that.

10
11 MR. HAMILTON: Okay. Shelikof Straits,
12 they're in within the three mile jurisdiction limit of the
13 State of Alaska. Why do we need to go to the North Pacific
14 Council to reduce the catch of chinook in that area?

15
16 MR. VANIA: I don't know. Why do you? I
17 mean, this is a resolution that's going to the Federal
18 Subsistence Board, right?

19
20 MR. MALLARD: And to Frank Rue.

21
22 MR. VANIA: Frank Rue. To put pressure on
23 the State.

24
25 MR. HAMILTON: Okay.

26
27 MR. VANIA: You know.

28
29 MR. NICK: This resolution, Mr. Chairman,
30 is going to Commissioner of Alaska Department of Fish and
31 Game, and also to Federal Subsistence Board Chairman Mitch
32 Demientieff. And.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Carl Jack?

35
36 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman, just thinking out
37 loud, I think what -- the net effect of this resolution if
38 carried out would be the exercise of the terr --
39 extraterritorial jurisdiction by the Secretary. That would
40 be to use the long arm of the government to protect the
41 subsistence resources.

42
43 MR. L. WILDE: Could you repeat that again?
44 Make sure we all understand.

45
46 MR. JACK: You know, there's reserve water
47 rights doctrine calls for federal management to manage
48 waters adjacent to public lands, and that's what Anilca is
49 all about. The government does not have jurisdiction over
50 those state -- over those waters adjacent to state lands or

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1 private lands. Or in the marine waters. I'm talking about
2 the authority of the Secretary under ANILCA. So I'm just
3 expressing my own thoughts on it, that this would be
4 tantamount to the exercise of the extraterritorial
5 jurisdiction. The extraterritorial jurisdiction is defined
6 that for if the government take action to protect the
7 subsistence resources that are -- that may be swimming
8 adjacent to those waters, navigable waters under state
9 management. But that's the way I understand
10 extraterritoriality, so I think this will be equal to that
11 if it's exercised by the Secretary. (In Yup'ik)

12
13 INTERPRETER: This (indiscernible) come
14 from him.

15
16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Hanson?

17
18 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
19 Before we vote on this, the whole after they rewrite the
20 amendment, then we send copies to the Secretary of
21 Interior, the President of the United States, Governor
22 Knowles, Senator Stevens, Senator Murkowski, Senator Young.
23 Are you keeping up with me, Vince?

24
25 MR. MATTHEWS: Yeah, I've got it. I've got
26 it. Yeah.

27
28 MR. HANSON: The Board of Fisheries, all
29 the Board of Fisheries, the Commissioner can distribute the
30 letter -- that letter when he receives it to his own staff,
31 so we wouldn't worry about it, unless he throws it away.
32 So those are the people that we want copies sent to, and to
33 North Pacific Council. That way we may get some action to
34 protect and conserve the salmon going into Kuskokwim and
35 Yukon. Otherwise we're going to go somewhere else.

36
37 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. (In Yup'ik)

38
39 MR. HANSON: (In Yup'ik)

40
41 INTERPRETER: After this amendment, it's
42 rewritten, Harry -- it will be signed by Harry. He has not
43 signed this document yet.

44
45 MR. HANSON: Ron Sam, Chairman of Western
46 Interior, Gerald Nicolai, Chairman Eastern Interior (In
47 Yup'ik). Who voted for it and who went against it. (In
48 Yup'ik)

49
50 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

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1 MR. HANSON: Secretary of Interior,
2 President, Governor.

3
4 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I understand that, but
5 he wanted us to send it back to them for their review,
6 because they are the ones that.....

7
8 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

9
10 MS. GREGORY:made it.

11
12 MR. HANSON: After signs it, then.....

13
14 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. Okay. Thank you.

15
16 MR. HANSON:it would be sent back to
17 Eastern Interior and Western Interior so they can review
18 it.

19
20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Martin?

21
22 MR. MOORE: John. (In Yup'ik)

23
24 INTERPRETER: I wanted to ask you in
25 Yup'ik. I'm going to.....

26
27 INTERPRETER: I think he's going to
28 translate for himself once he.....

29
30 INTERPRETER: Oh, he will translate for
31 himself. He will translate what he's talking about
32 himself.

33
34 MR. HANSON: Okay. From the Baren Island.

35
36 MR. MOORE: (In Yup'ik)

37
38 MR. HANSON: From the Baren Islands to
39 Unimak, there's king salmon, chum salmon, coho, sockeye
40 that go through that area, all the way to Unimak.

41
42 MR. MOORE: And those fish are intercepted?

43
44 MR. HANSON: Yeah, this is for subsistence.

45
46 MR. MOORE: Thank you. My.....

47
48 MR. HANSON: Behind.....

49
50 MR. MOORE:questioning, to be

00307

1 perfectly clear, this is the.....

2

3 MR. HANSON: Yeah. Behind.....

4

5 MR. MOORE:we're talking about those
6 species of fish that go through a certain route.....

7

8 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

9

10 MR. MOORE:to get to the Yukon and to
11 the spawning.....

12

13 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

14

15 MR. MOORE:destination to lay their
16 eggs and reproduce gain? That's the routing you're talking
17 about?

18

19 MR. HANSON: Right.

20

21 MR. MOORE: Whether if it's state waters or
22 federal government water?

23

24 MR. HANSON: Yeah. It goes through state
25 waters and federal government waters. State only has three
26 miles, and the rest is federal.

27

28 MR. MOORE: Well, can I say my statement
29 now? With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I'm concerned. I
30 think that this Board should take an action and be a leader
31 if they're going to try to protect the sustained yield of
32 these fisheries that go through this routing that are in
33 this amendment. The elder people are right in the way that
34 they brought us as native people knowing the animal
35 routing. And many times the elder people tell me that the
36 geese have certain way of routing to get to go to their
37 nesting place. And when they're going to return, they also
38 some -- they have a certain routing where they feed and eat
39 and they get fattened up before they fly a long ways,
40 before they come over, they also fatten up. But they have
41 certain places where they eat. The same way as the coho,
42 the silver salmon, the king salmon. That routing where
43 they eat on their way to spawn has to be protected if we're
44 going to protect the subsistence food for our people in
45 Yukon, Kuskokwim and Norton Sound. That amendment is worth
46 considering if you have to let the President, let the
47 President know, because it's in the constitution of the
48 State, and the Board of Fish and his commissioner are given
49 a lot of authority to protect those kind of routing,
50 because if they don't eat food on their way, they'll start

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1 and not reach their destination. This amendment is
2 important, therefore it must be brought out to people that
3 must deal with it. And you have the knowledge here to let
4 those people know. And I'm glad that we're doing it,
5 because we know some of those issues that we learn from our
6 native culture.

7
8 There's -- every animal has certain routing
9 way to go, and I'm glad that you're bringing it out, not
10 ignoring it, just because it's -- somebody tell you, no,
11 you can't go there, that's over your jurisdiction. Your
12 jurisdiction is to protect the subsistence and the
13 sustained yield. And if nobody protect their route to go
14 there, we're doing no -- we're haphazardly doing our work.
15 So, please, I encourage you to do what you can to protect
16 the route of all those species of fish of that go lay their
17 eggs in the Kuskokwim, Yukon and Norton Sound. Thank you
18 very much.

19
20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Matthew?

21
22 MR. HANSON: Mr. Chairman.

23
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

25
26 MR. HANSON: Okay.

27
28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Vince.

29
30 MR. MATTHEWS: All I was going to say,
31 Mr. Chairman, due to the importance of this issues, and
32 discussions with the vice chair of Eastern Interior, what
33 we'll end up doing if this passes is we'll poll all the
34 Western and Eastern Interior members to see if they would
35 support the amendment, and with that get the three chairs
36 to sign. I'm fairly sure they would support it, but we'll
37 just have to go through and poll them by phone and then do
38 as directed by Mr. Hanson, if this passes, of sending it.
39 That's all I had to say.

40
41 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman. Craig, I just
42 want a point of clarification. Based on your testimony
43 this afternoon, I thought I heard you say if this Council
44 considers the -- this resolution, it should be sent to
45 legislators as well, and (indiscernible) legislators and
46 other people. I just want a point of clarification on
47 that.

48
49 MR. FLEENER: Yes, Mr. Chair, Alex, yeah,
50 and I think that was covered in John's in his discussion a

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1 little while ago. He said to send it to Stevens, Young and
2 Murkowski, and so I think that was covered. I would agree
3 to that.

4
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more discussion on
6 the main motion?

7
8 MR. L. WILDE: Question.

9
10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question been called
11 for. All who favor on the main motion say aye.

12
13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14
15 MR. HANSON: Mr. Chairman, this has to be a
16 roll call. It has to be a roll call vote. Request a roll
17 call vote.

18
19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: You want it on a roll
20 call vote?

21
22 MR. HANSON: Uh-huh. (Affirmative) Yeah.

23
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. We'll take it on
25 a roll call vote.

26
27 MS. GREGORY: John Hanson?

28
29 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

30
31 MS. GREGORY: Mike Savage?

32
33 MR. SAVAGE: Yeah.

34
35 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wilde?

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

38
39 MS. GREGORY: James Charles?

40
41 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: Alvin Owletuck?

44
45 MR. OWLETUCK: Yes.

46
47 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde?

48
49 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

50

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1 MS. GREGORY: And myself. Seven yeahs,
2 zero nays.

3
4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. Any
5 more resolutions?

6
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, I don't know if
8 you want to discuss the joint Eastern/Western resolutions
9 that were presented to us, or maybe Mr. Fleener or Don or
10 Vince could suggest what we do, because the copy of your --
11 two resolutions passed by the Eastern and Western joint
12 councils were passed -- or rather made available to you.
13 And I'm sure that you've already read them. I don't know
14 if you need -- if you want to support these two resolutions
15 or refer them to some other time.

16
17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think we leave it up
18 to some other time. I think they're going to be the
19 response to some of these resolutions, traditional council
20 here. We need the procedure what to do.

21
22 MR. MATTHEWS: Oh, Mr. Chairman, these are
23 just resolutions that are provided to you. The first one
24 -- I mean, they're just given to you for information.
25 You've already discussed the second one lengthily when you
26 discussed the fishing periods. And if you want more
27 information on the third one, Mr. Fleener was the mover of
28 this resolution. We can open it up on discussion.

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: What action of advisory
31 council? More understanding that -- there's one here that
32 some of our people don't agree with, especially one or two.
33 Let the first hump or lump pass it -- let it pass. Some of
34 our people not agree with that.

35
36 MS. GREGORY: I think maybe to take care of
37 it, Mr. Chairman, I don't think that we should leave our
38 brother from upriver hanging in the air. We have to go one
39 way or the other.

40
41 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I can't really
42 understand the purpose of Resolution 1. Would somebody
43 explain Resolution 1 to me?

44
45 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, Resolution
46 Number 1 is addressing discussion with staff that we come
47 to you at meetings or Eastern and Western Interior with
48 ideas for you to write proposals to submit to the process,
49 and then they come back to you to look at another time.
50 This resolution is to encourage staff to write proposals

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1 that they feel are the best for management and protection
2 of the fish and present those to the council to look at.
3 Now, let me put that in terms that makes it a little
4 easier. Our program, the federal program is generally not
5 written proposals. When I worked for Alaska Department of
6 Fish and Game, Fish and Game staff writes proposals to
7 explain what they think might be done or options on doing
8 things. Our program has not done that. This resolution by
9 the two councils say start doing that, because we want to
10 know -- very capable subsistence fishery staff to write
11 proposals so then you guys can help make them better or way
12 they're no good.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: Do you have any problems
15 with that?

16
17 MR. MATTHEWS: I don't have any problem
18 with that.

19
20 MR. L. WILDE: Does that -- does anything
21 in our charter or in the -- in write (ph), mention that you
22 cannot do this? So what are you waiting for?

23
24 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, I can go on for hours
25 why we've been waiting, but it's not worth it at this time,
26 but I think this will help staff to have a little bit more
27 freedom to help you do it. Now, when I get back to the
28 office and the phone start ringing, I'll be calling you,
29 but that's where the -- that's the genesis of -- Mr.
30 Fleener was there, he may want to explain a little bit more
31 on why this came forth. But that's my understanding of the
32 reasoning.

33
34 MR. FLEENER: Do you want me to address it,
35 Mr. Chair?

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Let me say something.
38 I am afraid of -- to work on this without the people of
39 lower Yukon, that most of them, they don't know what's in
40 here. I'm afraid to work on this right now without
41 permission from lower Yukon people. We didn't have no --
42 we are just advisory and we are only supporting of what our
43 people want. We cannot tell them what to do. They have to
44 give us their own resolution, support or against these
45 resolutions. That's my feeling.

46
47 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman?

48
49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead.
50

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1 MR. NICK: Yeah. My understanding from
2 your meetings in Fairbanks, and correct me if I'm wrong, my
3 understanding, I think Mike will need to help me out on
4 this, my understanding that the purpose of this resolution
5 is that the management staff and biological staff, they
6 know which species of animals decline or increase is what I
7 understood. And then the direction, the Eastern/Western
8 Interior Councils gave the staff through this resolution is
9 to identify what kind of proposals need to be submitted for
10 consideration by their council, is how I thought I
11 understood that during your meeting.

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Go ahead.

14
15 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yeah,
16 the -- I think Jack Rekoff, if I'm right, is the one who
17 made this motion, and he's in Western Interior. And the
18 whole reason was basically -- or part of the reasoning was
19 we sit in our long, long meetings and we go back and forth
20 on some issues, and then we -- you know, after an hour of
21 discussion we come up with a proposal that some staff
22 member had in his mind all along, and they've been just
23 trying to nudge us along to help us come up with some of
24 these proposals. And so what Jack was saying here was that
25 instead of going through this process, just submit a
26 proposal to us, and then if we like it, we can go forward,
27 if we don't like it, we'll vote it down, or we can make
28 amendments to it, but it just -- it sort of speeds up the
29 process. They can submit a proposal and it still has to go
30 through our process. We don't have to go along with it if
31 we don't like it. And so all it is is encouraging staff
32 members to submit proposals. And it's like Lester said,
33 what's holding you back. And so this is just sort of a
34 push to tell them to go ahead and submit proposals. We
35 still have to review the proposals, and we don't have to
36 agree with them if we don't like them, and we can amend
37 them. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

38
39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Hanson.

40
41 MR. HANSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
42 Yeah, Vince, I think the staff should go ahead. The way
43 I'm reading this, that's what it says, the federal program
44 has hired many staff that have many years of experience, so
45 they should go ahead and make a proposal, submit to the
46 three regional council chairs so the council chairs can get
47 ahold of their members, either by phone or whatever, and
48 tell us about what the proposals of the staff mean.
49 Because we're not going to meet here next October, or we
50 have to wait until next October to go through that

00313

1 proposal.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah

4

5 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yeah,
6 I don't think any direction is needed by your Council. If
7 you don't want to do anything, it doesn't really -- you
8 don't have to make a motion supporting this or anything. I
9 mean, it's basically for discussion, letting you know what
10 we did, and if staff members start making proposals to us,
11 they're probably going to start making proposals to you, so
12 unless you guys have more interest in talking about this
13 one, I don't see any more need in focusing on it. We might
14 as well get to this last one so I can.....

15

16 MR. MATTHEWS: Second one.

17

18 MR. FLEENER: Or second one, excuse me, get
19 to this next one so I can see how many friends I have left
20 at the end of the night.

21

22 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) Mr. Chairman?

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

25

26 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

27

28 INTERPRETER: (Indiscernible) personally
29 it's okay, but concerning the second one, I think the
30 people in the area should be alert about it
31 (indiscernible).

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

34

35 INTERPRETER: These proposals, they're
36 going to be proposals, making the proposals from this area.
37 They will work on these. These proposals come from upper
38 -- these resolutions came from upriver, and these people
39 will make proposals out of these resolutions.

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Council members, how do
42 you feel about it, because there are already people that
43 are studying, working on, looking at these resolutions.
44 They will be -- they will converting it down to proposal,
45 respond by proposal. John.

46

47 MR. HANSON: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, (In
48 Yup'ik)

49

50 INTERPRETER: This first one, this pertains

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1 to the staff, and they just wanted to present this to us,
2 and we can vote to support it or not. But this one, the
3 second one, it comes from upriver from the Interior. This
4 two 36-hour period a week.....

5
6 MR. HANSON: Two 36-hour periods a week,
7 two 48-hour periods a week, two 42-hour periods a week,
8 five days a week (In Yup'ik)

9
10 INTERPRETER: Harry (ph) that -- it was
11 already presented to us earlier, but this last one here, I
12 don't feel it's -- I'm not supporting this resolution.

13
14 MR. HANSON: Resolution 03-01. This is a
15 resolution for and salmon agreement with Canada and funding
16 for a salmon use needs assessment. (In Yup'ik) Yeah. (In
17 Yup'ik) That. The first part, yeah. (In Yup'ik)

18
19 INTERPRETER: This resolution, 02-01. He's
20 wondering why they're copying this.

21
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

23
24 INTERPRETER: He think -- Harry will think
25 that -- there's two items involved with this one. He
26 thinks that it might have an effect on the first run of
27 fish. That's the way he understands this.

28
29 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman?

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

32
33 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, I'd like to hear from
34 the gentleman of there to go ahead and explain Resolution
35 2-01.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

38
39 MR. FLEENER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Craig
40 Fleener from Fort Yukon. Well, the intent of this is --
41 it's pretty easy to explain. We've been informed that the
42 first pulse of fish, and I've talked about this a couple
43 times, but we've been informed that the first pulse of fish
44 is primarily the fish that goes into the Yukon Flats and
45 that a large number of these fish go into Canada to spawn.
46 And so our primary intent with the first part of this was
47 to conserve or protect, whatever word you want to use,
48 that first pulse of fish in order to get them to the
49 spawning grounds for the benefit of all of us in the
50 future. And, of course, to benefit us in the upper Yukon

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1 River where we don't get many salmon. I've also been
2 informed that it's pretty much only the first pulse of fish
3 that we get to fish from. We don't get a lot of other
4 pulses that come into the Yukon Flats. So if I've been
5 informed correctly, our primary concern is to get these --
6 to do something to protect these fish to get them to the
7 spawning grounds, and to provide some subsistence salmon
8 for the people in the Yukon Flats.

9
10 With discussions from several council
11 members and other people here, they don't think that
12 protecting this first pulse is a good idea, because what
13 does it mean to be the first pulse. Somebody said to me
14 that something as small as a few hundred fish could be
15 considered a pulse, and if that's all we're protecting,
16 then we're really not protecting much and what's the use?
17 And it's really hard to determine what the initial pulse
18 might be. And somebody also said to me that sometimes the
19 fish wait a long time. Some of them will come through, and
20 then a real large body will come through in the second
21 pulse. And if some of those fish aren't protected, then we
22 may be wasting our time protecting the first pulse.

23
24 So I think that what we intended to do with
25 this first part of this resolution was to do something to
26 protect these fish in order to get them to the spawning
27 grounds, and to provide some fish for people in the upper
28 Yukon River. And if you guys disagree with this part of
29 the proposal, I'd actually like to hear what you think
30 would be a better idea instead of just not supporting it.
31 I've heard discussion from all of you that say we want to
32 have more fish in the future, and I've heard most of you
33 say we want to get more fish to the spawning grounds. So
34 if you think you have a better idea, I would actually like
35 to hear it, and if you could put your idea into some form
36 of a resolution or a proposal of some sort, to protect the
37 spawning salmon that go into the Yukon and Canada, I'd like
38 to hear it, and I think it would be the right thing to do.

39
40 We made this proposal, because it's the
41 best that we could come up with at the time. We didn't
42 have -- we didn't even have the benefit of having state --
43 many state people at our meeting. The state people got a
44 memo that said they were no longer allowed to participate
45 in our meetings. And that they were there for like the
46 first half of the first day, and then they all went home.
47 So we had -- we didn't even have the benefit of having
48 state employees to tell us whether or not, you know, our
49 discussions were going in the right direction. Fortunately
50 we've got Tom Vania here who we can ask questions to, but

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1 we didn't even have that benefit, so if you guys could come
2 up with a better idea, I'd certainly like to hear it.

3
4 And as far as the second part goes, the
5 chairman of the Eastern Interior was sort of -- well, he
6 was also concerned about protecting salmon going into
7 spawning grounds, and so he came up with the idea of
8 cutting these -- the second portion here, cutting those
9 into half. And part of that came from discussions with
10 Monty who said that last year if we didn't protect -- or if
11 -- even if the majority of the fish had gotten through,
12 that even if the majority of the fish weren't caught, we
13 may have not met escapement goals. And so if we can't meet
14 escapement goals if we let all the fish go through, then we
15 need to do something to allow for escapement, and so this
16 was sort of a knee jerk reaction, if we're not meeting
17 escapement goals -- if we have no chance of meeting
18 escapement goals, even if all the fish go through, we need
19 to do something to try to meet escapement goals, and that's
20 where the second part of this came from. It was an attempt
21 by us to try to meet escapement goals, and if you guys have
22 a better idea for that, I'd also like to hear that. But if
23 all we do is say, you know, we don't want any limitations
24 and we want to fish as much as we can, we're never going to
25 meet escapement goals, and we need to try to do something.
26 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27
28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alex.

29
30 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have
31 a question to Mr. Mallard and Vania. Based on my personal
32 experience in commercial fishing, and also in, you know,
33 subsistence fishing in summertime, and based on the
34 information that's been conveyed to me as a local fishermen
35 in Yukon by elders, I need to know where the big fat red
36 king salmon that usually -- I'm not sure what part of the
37 run is, I think it's second or third run. I think these
38 guys might know better. Big -- really big bright fat,
39 really fat king salmon. It's so fat it's round. It's
40 silver, right? Kind of silvery color.

41
42 MS. GREGORY: Silver, yeah.

43
44 MR. NICK: Where is that salmon destined
45 to? Where is it going to? And the second question is
46 where are white nosed king salmon go spawn? It's two
47 questions.

48
49 MR. MALLARD: Mr. Chair, Monty Mallard.
50 Both of those are good questions, and I think they can both

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1 be answered by indicating -- you're familiar with the radio
2 telemetry program that's occurring on chinooks. It's on-
3 going at the present time. These particular questions are
4 not easily answered, but I think the radio telemetry
5 program can indeed approach answering those questions at
6 some point in the future, because we're interested in these
7 white nose fish, too. As far as the big robust ones, we
8 never see that many of them. I don't know about yourself.
9 But anyway I think the telemetry program will answer that
10 question in the future. But we don't know.

11
12 MR. L. WILDE: I've got a question for Tom.
13 You're the biologist?

14
15 MR. VANIA: Yeah.

16
17 MR. L. WILDE: With -- yeah, with the
18 reduction in fishing as directed by the Board of Fish for
19 subsistence on the lower Yukon, will that allow enough of
20 the salmon of concern to reach their spawning areas? Would
21 that allow more salmon as that -- more salmon then? The
22 percentage of the salmon to reach the spawning grounds,
23 that would allow more of those, I guess what they might
24 designate as first run.....

25
26 MR. VANIA: Well,.....

27
28 MR. L. WILDE:or first pulse salmon
29 to go through?

30
31 MR. VANIA: The original intent of the
32 schedule given by the Board of Fish.....

33
34 COURT REPORTER: Tom, could you come up to
35 the microphone, please?

36
37 MR. VANIA: The original intent of the
38 schedule adopted by the Board of Fish wasn't geared to
39 reduce subsistence harvest. It was used to identify the
40 amount of time needed for various areas to obtain an
41 average subsistence harvest during a normal run. So it
42 wasn't geared to reduce subsistence harvest. It was just
43 to identify what time is -- amount of time is needed to get
44 your subsistence harvest on a normal run. Now, if you have
45 a bad run, that might not be enough time to get a normal
46 subsistence harvest. But if you have a bad run that's bad
47 enough that we need to reduce subsistence harvest, that
48 schedule might accomplish that. If the run is so bad that
49 you're still harvesting too much, it might need to be
50 reduced further, depending on what level we think that a

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1 harvest can be taken out of the run.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: You either misunderstood my
4 question or I did not ask you the question properly.

5

6 MR. VANIA: Well, I haven't quite answered
7 it yet I guess.

8

9 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah. My question was, as
10 it is 36 hours a week, or 72 hours a week is a reduction
11 from subsistence.

12

13 MR. VANIA: Yes.

14

15 MR. L. WILDE: Okay. We know that for a
16 fact. Okay. Will this reduction allow enough of the
17 salmon of concern, of his concern, would that allow more of
18 those fish to go up to his area?

19

20 MR. VANIA: It should, but it all depends
21 on if you're fishing when the fish are there. If that big
22 pulse comes through and you guys aren't fishing, well,
23 certainly it will allow those fish to go through. But if a
24 big pulse goes through right at the beginning of a 36-hour
25 period, you guys could take quite a bit of fish. We don't
26 know. It all depends on when the fish enter the river and
27 whether you guys are during a fishing period or not.

28

29 MR. L. WILDE: So will this resolution,
30 this Resolution Number 02-01 -- we don't really know
31 exactly first pulse is going up to that area or not?

32

33 MR. VANIA: Yeah. And another problem I
34 see with it is they're asking you not to fish at all until
35 we determine that a large pulse of fish has gotten past
36 your area. So like last year the first big pulse of fish
37 didn't come through until June 18th. So -- I mean, if
38 we're identifying a large pulse, which I think that's the
39 intent of the resolution, is that first big pulse, not a
40 little piddly one. You know, that doesn't count. They're
41 looking for a large pulse of fish. Last year that didn't
42 come through until June 18th. And when I look at this
43 resolution, they're asking you not to fish at all until
44 that time. And that seems a little harsh. And I'm not
45 quite sure that the State feels that that is the right
46 approach to take.

47

48 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Let me say something

00319

1 before I recognize Mr. Hanson. I am a fisherman, and I'm
2 an elder. First run, we don't touch it. Some of the run,
3 first run, it goes under the ice. We don't touch that.
4 Like this summer, there's some people up river in the
5 bridge area. Five ladies, they caught over 100 or 100 king
6 salmon. While up there they need fish. There's some other
7 people here could tell you, this one here that you put on
8 the numbers of 36 hours, two 36-hours, we are cutting our
9 own subsistence in half or 75 percent less. If this
10 continues, if we're not touching first pulse, and still
11 cutting half of our subsistence fishing before we do first
12 subsistence before the commercial anyway. Before
13 commercial, take care of subsistence. We're not fishing
14 seven days a week this coming summer if the fish runs same
15 as the last year. Reduce half or 65 percent on
16 subsistence. That should take care of instead of giving
17 more fish to spawning stream area. However, I would like
18 to see this, I'd like to see whole Yukon, two 36 hours
19 period, all the way from the mouth up to the Canada border.
20 And then I would be willing to give any kind of pulse. But
21 you have -- but I would like to see dealing with the whole
22 Yukon, not part of the Yukon area. So how do you think of
23 that?

24
25 MR. VANIA: Well, Harry, this isn't my
26 resolution. This resolution was not the State's idea, and
27 like I tried to explain earlier, that the State doesn't
28 necessarily think that this resolution is the right way to
29 go. Maybe Monty could comment on this better than me.

30
31 MR. MALLARD: No, I think you did a fine
32 job. I think you will find my management style is that I'm
33 always going to err on the side of conservation. And at
34 times that means asking for reductions up front rather than
35 waiting until it's too late. And I think Harry's option's
36 a valid option for discussion. Again it would only apply
37 on federal lands unless the State wanted to adopt it also,
38 but it's an option to be discussed, and that's one reason
39 we're here, just to see what we can do to move more fish
40 upstream. And once again I point out, if you have two 36-
41 hour periods here, and you take 75 percent of you, and we
42 have to chop off 5(d) to nothing, because there's just not
43 enough chinooks making for escapement, well, it's going to
44 implode next year. So it's extremely critical that
45 whatever we end up doing provides fish for upstream. We're
46 talking potentials of Tier II, we're talking about a real
47 fracturing between the groups. You have to get fish
48 upstream. And again, you know, that's exactly what -- why
49 we're here, what kind of options can we present that would
50 be satisfactory to provide for subsistence on federal

00320

1 lands? It's something to be evaluated. Thank you, Mr.
2 Chair.

3
4 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman?

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

7
8 MR. L. WILDE: Monty or Tom or whoever can
9 answer this question, has anybody ever had the
10 inquisitiveness enough to investigate, quote/quote, rumor
11 or could traditional knowledge that is being put out by
12 some of our elders saying that there are salmon going
13 underneath that ice at the beginning of the breakup, has
14 anybody in the department, or has the feds ever thought of
15 that, that maybe there might be some valid reason for
16 people to say that? Would it -- it could be a possibility
17 that there is such a thing as a run going underneath that
18 ice? I think maybe a request for study of that possibility
19 should -- is in order.

20
21 MR. MALLARD: Mr. Chair, I'll take the
22 first stab at that. Yes, I think there's fish going up
23 underneath the ice, but the numbers have to be relatively
24 small, because they're going up underneath the ice, they'd
25 be found upstream at some point, because they -- go ahead

26
27 MR. L. WILDE: Well, the reason why I say
28 that is because I was talking with an elder from Holy
29 Cross, Mr. Demientieff. I don't remember his name, the
30 old.....

31
32 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible)

33
34 MR. L. WILDE: Luke Demientieff, and he
35 told me that during the breakup last hear, he had
36 conversation with somebody at Fort Yukon that was getting a
37 lot of fish that were coming up under the ice, and it was
38 clear up there while it was still breaking up down here, so
39 there -- I don't think the man would purposely tell me an
40 untruth when he told it -- I think he told that in front of
41 everybody that was there at the Holy Cross meeting,
42 including YRDFA.

43
44 MR. MALLARD: That's correct. That's
45 correct I think that it was an unsubstantiated rumor at
46 this point in time. I think if this had occurred, we would
47 have heard about it from other sources.

48
49 MR. L. WILDE: But would it be -- Is there
50 a possibility where that could be -- is the -- could be put

00321

1 to rest to see actually how much? Is there a possibility
2 to find out if there is such a run going underneath that
3 ice, and if so, how much it would cost, and is it
4 possibility for us to help you in some other way to see if
5 we can find if there is that run that does exist under the
6 ice, to see where it runs and goes?

7

8 MR. MALLARD: Yes, Mr. Chair, and, Lester,
9 I don't think it would be that expensive. It would be a
10 matter of hiring some locals to go out and set nets prior
11 to the time that the normal run of fish come through. And
12 normally fishermen are out there chasing after whitefish
13 anyway. You would think if there was a large run of fish
14 occurring unknown to anyone, they'd still be picking them
15 up more often than one unsubstantiated number at Fort
16 Yukon. And we have a gentleman here from Fort Yukon. I
17 would think that if this had occurred, everyone would have
18 been out there with their nets, and he'd likely, since he
19 works with the natural resources would know if this is a
20 possibility himself.

21

22 MR. L. WILDE: Well, the information was
23 that those fish do swim deep under -- way deep in.....

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

26

27 MR. L. WILDE:the channel. Gut.....

28

29 MR. MALLARD: Not very many deep areas
30 there in Fort Yukon.

31

32 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah. But I think it would
33 help to see if there's such a run going underneath
34 that.....

35

36 MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair?

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

39

40 MR. FLEENER: I could certainly ask a few
41 people when I get back to Fort Yukon. I hadn't heard. But
42 if they are caught in whitefish nets, they're probably --
43 they must be small salmon, because the whitefish nets are
44 pretty small in comparison, so they wouldn't be catching
45 many if they are catching some. But I can ask people who
46 have their nets out early and let you guys know.

47

48 MR. L. WILDE: Well, that would certainly
49 help you guys up there, and it would help us down here, and
50 you could go home with more friends than you came.

00322

1 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman?

2
3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alex?

4
5 MR. NICK: The only thing that I want to
6 mention is that we're not lying to these people here, or
7 we're not fooling these people either. I mean, when I say
8 these people, there are some audience here who were present
9 during the Board of Fish deliberations. And there are some
10 people here from lower Yukon, including some RAC members
11 here, including myself, who were listening to the
12 Department's recommendations, and some of the resolutions
13 that we see like this one, for example, are based on the
14 Department's options, so where -- you know, when we hear
15 someone giving report or giving information, our thoughts
16 revert back to where we were before. Like myself, I was in
17 the Board of Fish meetings, I was in the FYS meetings in
18 Anchorage, I listened to the Department reports, and I also
19 listened to our staff reports, so some of the decisions
20 because the fact that there are RAC members like Eastern
21 and Western, are in advisory capacity, including these
22 people, the resolutions are based on the Department's and
23 the staff reports. They're not making any resolutions that
24 they think will not go through. And like, for example,
25 some of these RAC members that are sitting here went to
26 committee meetings for Kuskokwim and Yukon, and they
27 listened to recommendations that both sides gave to people
28 who are going to be coming up with proposals for
29 resolutions or recommendations, and as a coordinator for
30 this Council here, I will do everything I can to assist
31 this Council to come up with appropriate recommendations to
32 the Board. That's my job. I am not hired to hide
33 something from them. I am hired to assist them, to push
34 through recommendations that might benefit Yukon and
35 Kuskokwim Delta. I want to go on record stating that.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mr. Hanson?

38
39 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
40 I'll just mention one here on this resolution 02-01. Okay.
41 Looking at this resolution and what the Board of Fish make
42 into regulations, this resolution has the same hours on the
43 lower part of the Yukon, District 1, 2 and 3, which is two
44 36-hour periods. So they just -- like what Alex Nick
45 said, they're just taking what Fish and Game staff reported
46 to the Board of Fish, they took that and put it into
47 resolution. The Board of Fish already set the two 36 hours
48 for the lower part of the Yukon, Districts 1, 2 and 3.
49 Unless they had -- make this resolution before the February
50 8th meeting, but it's dated February -- or March 8, 2001.

00323

1 The resolution is made on that day. So I don't know, it's
2 -- but I'll go into the other one.

3
4 Okay. Behind your Yukon River drainage
5 salmon 2001 outlook on the back page, this is a question
6 I'm going to ask Tom Vania, I've already asked Monty, and
7 the -- his answer was we don't know. Tom Kron gave me the
8 same thing. Okay. On this figure up here, you see the back
9 page, it has all these chinook salmon commercial harvest,
10 underneath it says chinook salmon escapement. Y-K Delta
11 Regional Subsistence Advisory Council meeting in Kotlik.
12 Tom, I think you threw it in the waste basket.

13
14 MR. VANIA: I think I know the numbers
15 anyway, so go ahead.

16
17 MR. HANSON: But it's -- this out.....

18
19 MR. VANIA: Right.

20
21 MR. HANSON: Okay. You've got it. Okay.
22 Up here where it says chinook salmon commercial harvest for
23 2000, when they opened they took one, two, for six-hour
24 period last summer. They opened after all the kings
25 passed, because there was only a few fishermen that caught
26 these fish. For two periods the total was 8,518. My
27 question to you, Tom, is where did all them other kings
28 that passed through the district, 1, 2 and 3, go to? I
29 hope you'll have the answer.

30
31 MR. VANIA: Well, Monty kind of answered
32 that earlier, too, in that all those kings that went by,
33 you down below for the escapements. There just wasn't a
34 lot of fish in the river. Everything that went by, we see
35 where our escapement levels are, and we had the Anvik make
36 escapement, and I think the Salcha make escapement.
37 Canadian border passage was low. Subsistence harvest was
38 low. Canadian harvest was low. It was a low run. It's
39 not like there was 100,000 going by. I mean, there was
40 only about 36,000 Canadian fish total run. That includes
41 escapement and all the harvest. It wasn't a big run. So
42 that's where the fish went. You can see the escapement
43 numbers below. All the escapement numbers are low. We see
44 subsistence harvest is about 75 percent of the normal,
45 about 37,000. So it just wasn't a large run.

46
47 MR. HANSON: Okay. On your escapement at
48 the bottom, you have east fork Andreafsky weir, 1,358.
49 East fork Andreafsky River area out in 18, and it just goes
50 on down, way below the escapement goal on chinook. Your

00324

1 sonar count was 72,693. And then your other escapements
2 down are Anvik River.....

3

4 MR. L. WILDE: Point of order, Mr.
5 Chairman. I think we're discussing resolutions, and if Mr.
6 Hanson is addressing the resolution that we are addressing,
7 then I'd urge him to go on, but if not, then I think we
8 better get back to our agenda.

9

10 MR. HANSON: Okay. Mr. Chairman, these
11 figures correlate to the resolution 01-01, the escapement
12 goal, the catch of the few commercial openings. They
13 correlate with the 01-01 resolution.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: 02. You mean 02.

16

17 MR. L. WILDE: 02.

18

19 MR. SAVAGE: You mean 02?

20

21 MR. HANSON: With 72,693 past the sonar on
22 chinook, these escapements that go into all these streams,
23 Anvik and all the way up to the Canadian main stem tagging,
24 some didn't even get an escapement. And then from Holy
25 Cross on up, they didn't even meet their subsistence. I
26 know when the king salmon came in, we weren't commercial
27 fishing those. I'll bet you there was over 100,000 kings
28 that went through, but where did they go? I don't know.
29 So this 01 resolution with this two 36-hour periods, two
30 48-hour periods, two 42 hours, five days, and where it
31 says, whereas there is need for limited harvest on that
32 pulse, it correlates with all these fish that came in.

33

34 MR. MALLARD: Mr. Chair, I don't know
35 really where to go with this. Possibly it should be rather
36 than saying the first pulse, maybe it's a matter of
37 allowing enough fish to go by until Fish and Game has an
38 opportunity to examine what the run is turning out to be.
39 Maybe a pulse isn't the correct term. It comes in, if the
40 first pulse is on the 18th, well, it's probably unfair for
41 you to be delayed that long. But something needs to be
42 done, and that's one reason I think this resolution is
43 important, because it stimulates discussion. And some new
44 ideas can come out of it. It doesn't need to be accepted
45 by your group in total, but I've already heard some good
46 things come out of it. And if there were only -- John, you
47 say there's 100,000 fish came by last year, normally that
48 many's harvested in the commercial harvest. You take
49 another 52,000 in subsistence. And then there's always the
50 escapement. So you're talking about, if there's only

00325

1 100,000 fish, that was nothing.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman?

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Lester, before I
6 recognize you, I hate this kind of thing that repeated,
7 repeated all the time and we're just like a broken record.
8 We've been doing this already all evening. Go ahead,
9 Lester.

10

11 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
12 move that Resolution 01, 02, 03 be addressed by staff for
13 comment and opinion to be discussed at our fall meeting.
14 And that staff collects the opinion of both Fish and Game
15 and Fish and Wildlife and this -- their opinion be
16 presented to both Western Interior, Eastern Interior and to
17 this RAC. that's my motion.

18

19 MR. MOORE: Mr. Chairman?

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Martin.

22

23 MR. MOORE: Lester's been reading, we're --
24 they're going to try to shut us off before we say what we
25 want to say. I think it's important that these people if
26 they want to say something, they say something. Earlier we
27 said let's hear from them. Now you want to shut us off.

28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: No, Martin.

30

31 MR. MOORE: I'd like to say my piece if I
32 can.

33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: No, Martin, we not try
35 to shut you guys off. We're addressing these three
36 resolutions, 01, 02, 03.

37

38 MR. MOORE: I want talk on the resolutions.

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

41

42 MR. MOORE: Now, when we talking about time
43 immemorial, we talk about.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Martin?

46

47 MR. MOORE:before the white man came.
48 That's what we say. (In Yup'ik) Time immemorial. Last
49 year in June, June has 30 days. June has 30 days. I
50 marked them. Time immemorial. What -- before the white

00326

1 man came we fished 30 days. Last year in 2001 we fished
2 for 30 days without interruption. We came to the time.
3 The reality is the truth, the real truth this year is not
4 we're going to fish like time immemorial. We're going to
5 fish this much. Half of what we used to fish, time
6 immemorial. This year, you will subsist fish, we will
7 subsist fish for 12 days. Twelve days. That's the new
8 rule, that's the new law.

9
10 I was there in Anchorage. There were only
11 five of us out of over 600 fishermen that's supposed to be
12 there protecting their rights. It was sad. To have only
13 five people to tell the Board of Fish and everybody else,
14 we want to fish seven days like we've been fishing for time
15 immemorial. Thirty days. We didn't get it. Only five of
16 us was there.

17
18 Where's the rest of the other people that
19 are -- they're going to -- this time they're talking about
20 cutting just little bit more by this resolution. If this
21 resolution becomes adopted by the Federal Board and they
22 say the pulse of fish come June 18, this is how much you'll
23 fish. Six days. That's what they're talking about. And
24 that's why it's important that we understand what this
25 resolution's talking about. It's talking about fishing six
26 days instead of 30 days. We fished 30 days last year.
27 This year we're going to fish 12 no matter what these
28 people say. No matter what we say. It's already cut to 12
29 days. And to 15 days in July. Half a month this month,
30 half a month next month. It's already off. And they want
31 to now -- how are you going to survive? Ask you, how much
32 fish you're going to get in six days to feed your family
33 for this winter. I think we've already given up a little
34 bit to conserve and to protect the fishery. We already
35 gave up, they already take. How come they want to take
36 some more and give us this much? We did give a lot, I
37 think. This is a little too much. It's going to hurt a
38 lot of my people here. I think give the time, try it out
39 this year. Kill that resolution.

40
41 MR. L. WILDE: Martin?

42
43 MR. MOORE: Yes. Thank you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There was a motion on
46 the floor, not seconded.

47
48 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: It's not seconded.

00327

1 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, my motion was
2 that resolutions 01, 02 and 03 be addressed by staff for
3 comment and opinions to be discussed at this fall meeting.
4 But the opinions must come from both Fish and Game, Fish
5 and Wildlife, and as Jerry said, it's going to -- this
6 second resolution would not just cut our time for six days,
7 it would cut our fishing time to nothing. So we need to
8 have those opinions sent to all three of the RACs, to the
9 makers of the resolution, and to the people that it
10 concerns That's my motion, Mr. Chairman.

11
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's a second to
13 the motion?

14
15 MR. SAVAGE: I second.

16
17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by Mike Savage.

18
19 MR. L. WILDE: The reason for this resol --
20 motion, Mr. Chairman, was as our friend and brother from
21 upriver stated, they didn't have anybody to advise when
22 they made that resolution. I think with the concerns that
23 Fish and Wildlife and Fish and Game has, they may even
24 withdraw the motion. I don't know. But I think they
25 should have the opinion that they needed at the time that
26 this motion was made, then at the next fall meeting, if we
27 must, if we must and if we have to protect our people, then
28 we can either vote it down or do whatever we want to do.

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more discussion to
31 the motion?

32
33 MS. GREGORY: I lost you after the address
34 by the staff.

35
36 MR. L. WILDE: For comment and opinion to
37 be addressed for next fall meeting.

38
39 MS. GREGORY: All right.

40
41 MR. L. WILDE: I'll write it for you later.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

44
45 MR. L. WILDE: Because it is really a big
46 concern. It is. It's very important that everybody on the
47 river understand what might happen if the resolution should
48 pass. Question. Roll call vote for the question.

49
50 MS. GREGORY: James Charles?

00328

1 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

2
3 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wilde?

4
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yes.

6
7 MS. GREGORY: Alvin Owletuck?

8
9 MR. OWLETUCK: Yeah.

10
11 MS. GREGORY: John Hanson?

12
13 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

14
15 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde?

16
17 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

18
19 MS. GREGORY: Mike Savage?

20
21 MR. SAVAGE: Yes.

22
23 MS. GREGORY: And I vote yes. Seven yeahs,
24 zero nays.

25
26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The motion carried.
27 Martin, this one is going to be respond, before March 30,
28 you could respond either on the resolution or either by
29 proposal. Okay. But you have to know that that line is
30 March 30, this month.

31
32 MR. NICK: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman?

33
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

35
36 MR. NICK: (In Yup'ik)

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

39
40 MR. NICK: Martin? (In Yup'ik) I believe
41 the fisheries deadline's 30th of this month, fisheries
42 proposals. You may submit fishery proposals if you want to
43 seek change in that regulation. State regula -- federal
44 regulation, right? Federal regulation.

45
46 MR. BERG: Just federal.

47
48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

49
50 MR. NICK: Yeah.

00329

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Carl?

2
3 MR. JACK: Mr. Chairman, members of the
4 Board, I'm pretty certain that when the Federal Board takes
5 this up, they will take their role in protecting the
6 subsistence priority very seriously. As you know, the
7 priority for the state and the federal program is
8 different. Whereas the priority for the state includes
9 everyone, urban, rural, it doesn't make any difference.
10 That's the state priority. Whereas the federal mandate is
11 rural preference, and I'm reasonably sure that -- I'm very
12 certain that the Federal Board will take the ANILCA mandate
13 very seriously when it addresses the issue. And as you've
14 stated, the two 36-hour periods are the state regulations,
15 and somebody stated earlier from the lower Yukon up to
16 Paimiut is the federal responsibility, and I'm pretty sure
17 that they will take that very seriously. Thank you.

18
19 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I have one
20 question for Vince. Vince, these resolutions, that 01, 2,
21 3, what are resolutions -- are you going to -- in the
22 matter of resolutions, are they drafted into proposal by
23 staff, or what these -- what do you do with resolutions?

24
25 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, these are
26 basically resolutions. They're not proposals. They'll
27 just be submitted to the Chairman of the Federal
28 Subsistence Board and we'll copy out of courtesy to the
29 Alaska Department of Fish and Game these resolutions. Not
30 being a lawyer, I take these as just resolutions, not
31 recommendations, so I don't know exactly what the Board
32 would do with resolutions. They're not proposals. They do
33 not require analysis except now that you've requested it in
34 your motion.

35
36 MR. L. WILDE: Well, prior to the admission
37 to the Board, I would like to see them come back to the
38 RACs before they are presented with the opinions attached.

39
40 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, I understand what you
41 said, but the two councils have empowered me to share these
42 with the Board. They took action and met last week, and
43 maybe when we -- well, I don't if we want to go there.
44 They have to be provided. They requested out of protecting
45 their needs and desires, so they would be provided to the
46 Board.

47
48 MR. L. WILDE: Well, in that case, Mr.
49 Chairman, I would like to move that the lower Yukon-
50 Kuskokwim RAC oppose Resolution 01, 02, 03.

00330

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on the
2 floor to oppose Resolution Number 02 and 01.

3
4 MR. L. WILDE: Okay. I meant 02 and 03.

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: 02-01.

7
8 MR. L. WILDE: No, not 01.

9
10 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

11
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: 01 is the.....

15
16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: 01.

17
18 MR. L. WILDE: 02. I mean, I'm sorry, I
19 apologize. I'm thinking a little bit slow here. I meant
20 01-02. Let's try that again.

21
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: It have to be 02.

23
24 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I move that we
25 oppose Resolution 02-01.

26
27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's any second
28 to the motion?

29
30 MR. OWLETUCK: I second it.

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by Alvin
33 Owletuck. Discussion.

34
35 MR. HANSON: Question.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question's been called
38 for.

39
40 MR. FLEENER: Mr. Chair, the only thing I
41 was going to say is that since there's been so much
42 discussion from your council supporting the idea of
43 conserving fish, I think it would be at least a good idea
44 if you send a letter along with your opposition saying you
45 support the idea of conserving fish, because that's what
46 the whole intent is. You may not agree with the method
47 that we've chosen, but I think it would be good at least if
48 you would submit a letter, this is just a recommendation,
49 saying you support the idea of conserving fish, you support
50 the idea of getting fish to the spawning grounds. You just

00331

1 don't support this method of doing it. I think that would
2 carry a lot weight with the Federal Subsistence Board
3 and.....

4
5 MR. L. WILDE: With the consent of my
6 second, I would like to include his point.

7
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Do you include
9 in the second?

10
11 MR. OWLETUCK: I do.

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: It's included. Any
14 more discussion?

15
16 MR. HANSON: Question.

17
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question. Roll call.

19
20 MS. GREGORY: This is a motion to oppose
21 Resolution 01, 02 and 03.

22
23 MR. L. WILDE: No.

24
25 MS. GREGORY: I'm sorry, 02 and 03, thank
26 you.

27
28 MR. L. WILDE: 02-01. The last.....

29
30 (Indiscernible - simultaneous speech)

31
32 MR. L. WILDE: No, the number is 02-01.

33
34 MS. GREGORY: That one?

35
36 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah.

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, for
41 information, usually the year is the first number and the
42 second.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

45
46 MS. GREGORY:number is the number of
47 the resolution, so that's why it's confusing.

48
49 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah. I think we're
50 overworked.

00332

1 MS. GREGORY: Alvin Owletuck?
2
3 MR. OWLETUCK: Yes.
4
5 MS. GREGORY: James Charles?
6
7 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
8
9 MS. GREGORY: Mike Savage?
10
11 MR. SAVAGE: Yes.
12
13 MS. GREGORY: Mary Gregory, yes. Hanson?
14
15 MR. HANSON: Yes.
16
17 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde?
18
19 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.
20
21 MS. GREGORY: The elder Wilde?
22
23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yes. Martin, (In
24 Yup'ik).
25
26 MR. NICK: 02-01.
27
28 MS. GREGORY: This is 2001. They got it
29 backwards.
30
31 MR. NICK: Oh, okay.
32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yes.
34
35 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: What else?
36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Next on our agenda is
38 calendar time and place of next meeting. You'll find it on
39 Tab I.
40
41 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman?
42
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah?
44
45 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I have one
46 more.
47
48 MR. NICK: Oh, we have one more.
49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

00333

1 Yeah, go ahead.

2

3 MR. MATTHEWS: Well, I'll need help on this
4 one. This is a request from one of your council members,
5 Mike Savage, to have a special action go into effect on
6 June 1st, and I think Jerry can help explain it, but it
7 would be a good idea for you guys to look at this and
8 support it as a council if you so desire, otherwise Mike
9 would have to go forward as an individual.

10

11 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Jerry Berg,
12 fishery biologist for the Kuskokwim. We had staff, Laura
13 Jurgensen helped Mike draft up this proposal to address the
14 sport fishing issue on the Kuskokwim, and essentially this
15 is a special action which would be in place for 60 days
16 this summer, effective on June 1st, and it would close
17 sport fishing for chinook salmon on the Kuskokwim River and
18 all tributaries from the Aniak River, including the Aniak
19 River downstream to the mouth of the Kuskokwim River. And
20 that's basically where there's federal jurisdiction within
21 the refuge. So that's the intent of the proposal. If
22 you'd like me to read the entire special action request, I
23 can do that.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Will you please do that?

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Please do it.

28

29 MR. BERG: Okay. To stop sport fishing for
30 chinook salmon in the Aniak River as this take is harming
31 subsistence users on the entire Kuskokwim River.

32

33 MR. MATTHEWS: You've got to read all
34 (indiscernible).

35

36 MR. BERG: Yeah, that's for a proposal.
37 How would this new regulation read? I would read from the
38 mouth of the Kuskokwim up to the Aniak River, federal
39 waters, no sport fishing.

40

41 Why should this change be made? Sport fish
42 take of salmon should not be allowed since subsistence is a
43 higher priority than commercial and sport use.

44

45 What impacts will this change have on fish
46 populations? It will boost salmon stocks especially in
47 their spawning streams. It will increase fish numbers.

48

49 How will this change affect subsistence
50 users? It will help subsistence users who are greatly

00334

1 suffering from subsistence restrictions and closures.

2

3 Which communities have used this resource?

4 All villages from Kipnuk to Chuathbaluk.

5

6 Where has this resource been harvested?

7 From the mouth of the Kuskokwim to Chuathbaluk.

8

9 And when is the resource harvested? From

10 May through October.

11

12 That's the end of the special action

13 request, Mr. Chairman, thank you.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: So, Mr. Chairman, how do we
16 special act on this proposal? What's the procedure? If we
17 want it to be effective June 1, which is in two months?

18

19 MR. BERG: It would be just to support this
20 special action request submitted, and it would be -- I
21 think it would be a much stronger request coming from the
22 entire council rather than just one member of the council.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Request for the motion.

25

26 MR. CHARLES: Mr Chairman?

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: James.

29

30 MR. CHARLES: I move to support the
31 proposal for stopping sport fishing.

32

33 MS. GREGORY: I second the motion.

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by Mary.

36 Discussion?

37

38 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman?

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alex.

41

42 MR. NICK: If you look in your Federal
43 Regulation booklet, there's a map on page 108. If you look
44 in there, and if you put a language in the proposal to
45 state that this be in effect only within the federal
46 waters, Aniak River there's very, very little federal
47 waters. Am I wrong, Mike?

48

49 MR. RIORDEN: You're wrong. The boundary
50 of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge is on the.....

00335

1 COURT REPORTER: Mike, you're going to have
2 to come closer.

3
4 MR. RIORDEN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, the --
5 Mike Riorden. The boundary of the Yukon Delta National
6 Wildlife Refuge is on the east side of the Aniak from the
7 Dostak River on down. So that would cover the majority of
8 the area in the Aniak River that is used for sport fishing
9 of king salmon.

10
11 MR. NICK: Okay. I see. Thank you, Mike.

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more discussion?

14
15 MS. GREGORY: Question.

16
17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The question's been
18 called for. I ask for roll call.

19
20 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, give me a few minutes
21 to write the names down. Roll call number 7. Mike Savage,
22 okay. Harry Wilde?

23
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yes.

25
26 MS. GREGORY: Alvin Owletuck?

27
28 MR. OWLETUCK: Yes.

29
30 MS. GREGORY: Mary Gregory, yes. James
31 Charles?

32
33 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

34
35 MS. GREGORY: John Hanson?

36
37 MR. HANSON: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

38
39 MS. GREGORY: Lester Wilde?

40
41 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: Mike Savage?

44
45 MR. SAVAGE: Abstain. I abstain. The
46 reason why I abstain is that I made the proposal.

47
48 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh. Six yeahs, one
49 abstain.

50

00336

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So it's -- the motion
2 carried. Now, (In Yup'ik) Number 16 on your agenda, last
3 on agenda.

4
5 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, we have one
6 more. I need to know what's happening to the people who --
7 the members of the RAC Council who are not present at this
8 meeting. And they are Robert Nick, Fritz George, Willard
9 Church, Thaddius Tikiun, Phillip Moses.

10
11 MR. HANSON: Billy McCann.

12
13 MS. GREGORY: Billy McCann. I need to know
14 whether they're excused or not excused.

15
16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alex?

17
18 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, Robert Nick could
19 not make it because he was not feeling well. Phillip Moses
20 had an accident and then ended up in the hospital for quite
21 some time this winter. And Billy McCann decided not to
22 attend this meeting for personal reasons. Fritz George
23 could not make it due to search and rescue efforts for
24 missing person in his village. Who's the other one?

25
26 MS. GREGORY: Willard Church.

27
28 MR. NICK: Willard Church could not attend
29 the meeting because he felt that, you know, he won't be
30 representing his village due to the fact that he's shifted
31 from different job to another. And Thaddius Tikiun could
32 not make it, because he ran out of leave, annual leave. So
33 I think that covers, right? I hope.

34
35 MS. GREGORY: So I need -- I still need to
36 know the status of how they're deemed.

37
38 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, I think
39 individually, right? We need to go through individually if
40 we're going to pass.....

41
42 MR. NICK: Maybe Vince could help me out on
43 that, but there may be one or two members that don't have a
44 valid excuse to be absent then, but others, you know, have
45 valid reasons.

46
47 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the way I have
48 done it over the years is I usually consult with the Chair
49 when I find out that someone's not going to make it, and
50 then we just talk it over, and the ones I've heard so far

00337

1 all sound like excused absence to me, but I usually talk
2 with the chair, because in the regions I work in, he's the
3 boss. So I don't want to make -- say which ones are
4 excused or unexcused. I let the leadership of the council
5 determine that.

6
7 MR. NICK: (In Yup'ik)

8
9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

10
11 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

12
13 MR. NICK: You're the boss.

14
15 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

16
17 MR. CHARLES: (In Yup'ik) Willard (In
18 Yup'ik). The rest of them.....

19
20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Well, that's what I
21 figure, yeah.

22
23 MR. CHARLES: (In Yup'ik)

24
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: No. We could handle it
26 without a motion. There's two persons I'd rather to give
27 them unexcused. Willard Church and Billy McCann. And the
28 rest of them, I'll give them excused, because they went out
29 and tried to find a person, take their time and effort.
30 They asked me already, and I told them that you will not
31 happy even you do go to RAC meeting. I think it's better
32 for you to stay home and try to help these people. So I
33 give those people opportunity because they let me know what
34 they're going to do. So -- however, Billy McCann and Mr.
35 Church didn't give me no -- nothing. I will give those two
36 persons unexcused.

37
38 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, for your
39 information, council members and staff, I was in constant
40 contact with our chair person to see who's coming and who's
41 not coming and the reasons why they were -- you know, they
42 were asking to be absent from this meeting.

43
44 MS. GREGORY: Quyana.

45
46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, okay. Now we get
47 down to the -- finally on our agenda. 16. Calendar and
48 time and place for next meeting, tab I, on your booklets.
49 Tab -- Vince will you give us this -- when is the next
50 meeting?

00338

1 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, if you look
2 under Tab I for Iditarod, you see a calendar there.

3
4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

5
6 MR. MATTHEWS: The window for meeting
7 starts September 10th, and goes through October 19th.
8 Right now I don't -- I'm in two places at once, but there
9 are other councils have selected times to meet, and --
10 well, Western Interior is going to meet in McGrath on
11 October 2nd through the 4th, and Eastern Interior is going
12 to meet October 9th through the 11th. The reason I bring
13 those up is you have staff, various staff that serve either
14 one of those councils. And I don't have my notes for the
15 other councils that meet with me right at this moment. So
16 that's the window you have to meet.

17
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: What date would be
19 suitable for us to have a meeting? I want to ask rest of
20 the council members. I know that you are responsibility
21 for some other meetings like AVCP and AFN and all those.

22
23 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, we also got to
24 take into consideration that we've got to go out and
25 practice what we've been defending for a long time. We've
26 got to go out and catch our subsistence moose in September.
27 I think the first -- the first two weeks of September that
28 are shown, we -- I don't know how long, sometimes it takes
29 me a long time to catch a moose, so I would suggest maybe
30 the third week, sometime in September, the third week?

31
32 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh.

33
34 MR. L. WILDE: Would -- how would that fit
35 the staff's schedule? 25th, 26th, 27th September?

36
37 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I -- that
38 would work fine with staff, what I know is available. I'm
39 just stumbling here by the fact that we work for you, so
40 whatever's best for you.

41
42 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, I realize that, but
43 then, you know, you've got time where you must have --
44 you've got to prepare for those other people. We've got to
45 take you -- your time into consideration also. We can't
46 let you be stretched in between two, Western Interior and
47 Yukon. You've only got two legs.

48
49 MR. MATTHEWS: So can I seize the
50 opportunity? You're inviting me to the next meeting? I

00339

1 was so worried I might not get out of town. Mr. Chair,
2 those dates are fine. The staff that you have on your team
3 is Laura, so I'll ask Laura, do those dates look fine, and
4 Pete DeMatteo is your other staff person, and Tom Kron,
5 who's not here. But I would assume that would work with
6 Tom.

7
8 MR. L. WILDE: How would that work with the
9 rest of the council, 25, 26, 27?

10
11 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: 26, 27.

12
13 MR. HANSON: Will you be back from moose
14 hunting then?

15
16 MR. L. WILDE: I guarantee it.

17
18 MR. NICK: Lester, is that going to be in
19 Russian Mission?

20
21 MR. L. WILDE: I don't know if I'm going to
22 catch anything but I should be back by then.

23
24 MR. NICK: We'll have moose over there.

25
26 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) I have no problem
27 with it.

28
29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

30
31 MR. HANSON: No problem.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. No problem with
34 Mary. How about?

35
36 MR. SAVAGE: None with me.

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: It's okay with here on
39 this side.

40
41 MR. CHARLES: Okay with me.

42
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay with this one.
44 Okay with that. Okay with that.

45
46 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) Please.

47
48 MR. L. WILDE: So, Mr. Chairman, I would
49 like to move that our next fall meeting, 2001 be held at
50 some place on the 25th, 26th, 27th.

00340

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

2
3 MR. SAVAGE: (In Yup'ik)

4
5 MR. L. WILDE: So far those dates. I don't
6 know, I guess we'll have to discuss where we're going to
7 go, but my motion just states the dates, unless you want to
8 wait until we decide where we're going to meet, and I could
9 incorporate that into the motion.

10
11 MR. OWLETUCK: It's got to be -- Yukon this
12 one, next will be Kuskokwim.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: Next one's in Bethel?

15
16 MR. HANSON: Why can't we have it on --
17 along the coast there?

18
19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (In Yup'ik)

20
21 MR. HANSON: Kipnuk.

22
23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I don't know. I had a
24 letter from Hooper Bay and asked us if we could have a
25 meeting at Hooper Bay. But I don't know, it's up to I
26 think Kuskokwim side where we should have a meeting
27 September 6 and September 7.

28
29 MS. GREGORY: I think -- Mr. Chairman, I
30 think that's a good idea, because we've been to the
31 Kuskokwim area, we've been to the east coast of Kuskokwim.
32 Since I've been on, we've been meeting in Quinhagak,
33 Nunapitchuk, and mostly in Bethel. I think -- (In Yup'ik).

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So you want to have a
36 meeting at Hooper Bay?

37
38 MR. SAVAGE: Hooper Bay (In Yup'ik)

39
40 MR. L. WILDE: We had a meeting in Hooper
41 Bay already once.

42
43 MR. SAVAGE: Yeah.

44
45 MR. MOSES: Mr. Chairman?

46
47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah?

48
49 MR. MOSES: I think the reason why these --
50 somebody in Hooper Bay had written you a letter is the fact

00341

1 that the word had gotten out to the west (ph) side in the
2 coastal villages that there was some consideration about
3 cutting down -- cutting us down on the subsistence fishery.
4 Even in Hooper Bay area, we were talking about cutting our
5 times when we fish, because they were saying that we were
6 bycatching the salmon that were bound for the Yukon. I
7 think that's the reason why we -- from that
8 (indiscernible). Harry, you are out there, and
9 (indiscernible) made comments to you about some -- maybe
10 have some rumors or if you could.....

11
12 MR. L. WILDE: That's just.....

13
14 MR. MOSES:if you think so?

15
16 MR. L. WILDE: A rumor.

17
18 MR. MOSES: I think that's the only reason
19 why.

20
21 MR. L. WILDE: But we had a meeting at
22 Hooper Bay once before and I.....

23
24 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

25
26 MR. L. WILDE:whenever I go to Hooper
27 Bay, I talk -- I meet with the tribal council, and the city
28 council, and if there was such an invitation, I would have
29 probably heard of it.

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think if we choose
32 Hooper Bay, we've to have an option.

33
34 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah?

37
38 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

39
40 MR. L. WILDE: Tunt.

41
42 MS. GREGORY: Tunt.

43
44 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, they want us
45 to.....

46
47 MR. L. WILDE: James Charles has already
48 invited us to Tuntutuliak.

49
50 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

00342

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, we could go
2 Tuntutuliak.

3
4 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, that brings up
5 another question, you know, for me. During that time,
6 during the first part of September there is going to be
7 notification to the villages regarding the meeting. Now
8 I'm wondering how many people, how many leaders from those
9 respective various coastal areas go moose hunting,.....

10
11 MR. L. WILDE: A lot.

12
13 MR. NICK:and for how long?

14
15 MR. L. WILDE: Sometimes a whole month.

16
17 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

18
19 MR. CHARLES: Below Kalskag it's 3rd up to
20 30. The end of September.

21
22 MR. L. WILDE: Yeah, maybe those September
23 dates are not so good after all?

24
25 MR. CHARLES: Unit 18.

26
27 MR. NICK: 25 and -- 25 through 27, maybe
28 Carl can help us out a little bit, because he is from that
29 area. We know that people from Tuntutuliak, Eek area and
30 up and down Kuskokwim do go moose hunting about that time.

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

33
34 MR. NICK: And they will be going back to
35 their villages. I'm wondering unless we give them early
36 notice regarding the meeting, I'm wondering if there would
37 be enough time for those villages to respond or submit
38 proposals or prepare for testimonies or addressing council
39 regarding their issues.

40
41 MS. GREGORY: What if we, Mr. Chairman, put
42 both Kipnuk and Tuntutuliak down, and as a suggested. (In
43 Yup'ik) go moose hunting that much. I don't know. (In
44 Yup'ik)

45
46 MR. L. WILDE: If those dates are in
47 conflict, Mr. Chairman, I think we could always move the
48 25th, 26th, 27th, you know. If that's going to be in
49 conflict with the people that are in the areas going out
50 moose hunting.

00343

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, James.

2

3 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman, I don't think
4 moose hunting would be too much problem at Tuntutuliak, but
5 maybe about ten people go to Holitna and when that area
6 close, they go down below Kalskag on down. But maybe about
7 five would be out hunting, still hunting by that time.

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

10

11 MR. NICK: The only concern I had was, you
12 know, we rep -- I mean, you represent the whole Y-K Delta,
13 not only the respective area. That's the -- you know, and
14 what I mean by that is if people from Lower Yukon wants to
15 go over to wherever we're meeting in Kuskokwim and submit
16 their proposals like we told them earlier, then those
17 people like key people from this area might be out moose
18 hunting during that time maybe. That's the concern I would
19 have, you know.

20

21 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

22

23 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, could you
24 recognize Vince, please?

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Vince?

27

28 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Chairman, what I'm
29 hearing here is it seems to be difficult for you to meet
30 within this window of September 10th through October 19th.
31 I'm also hearing good justification that you may want to
32 request to meet probably like, you know, October 23rd, 24th
33 and 25. AFN is the week of October 14th through the 20th.
34 Other councils have met outside that window if there was
35 good justification.

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: That's AVCP time.

38

39 MR. MATTHEWS: Oh, it's AVCP meeting time?

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

42

43 MR. MATTHEWS: Okay.

44

45 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: AVCP meets before.....

46

47 MS. GREGORY: AFN board.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) I wanted

50 this date.

00344

1 MR. L. WILDE: 25, 26, 27 September.

2
3 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

4
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, (In Yup'ik)

6
7 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, then I would
8 like to make a motion that we meet at Tuntutuliak on the
9 25th, 26th, 27th with Kipnuk being our second option.

10
11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's any second
12 to the motion?

13
14 MR. OWLETUCK: Second the motion.

15
16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by Alvin.
17 Discussion.

18
19 MR. L. WILDE: Question.

20
21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question's been called
22 for. All who favor say aye.

23
24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25
26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose same sign?

27
28 (No opposing votes.)

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. Now
31 we're going to have benediction, and after benediction,
32 we're going to adjourn. Shall I ask someone that closing
33 our meeting with a benediction? Before we do that, we want
34 to thank Kotlik and the people of Kotlik for taking care of
35 us over here, feeding us, and we appreciate that we -- what
36 they done. And at this time I would like to ask Alvin
37 Owletuck, will you close our meeting with benediction? And
38 all stand up.

39
40 MR. OWLETUCK: (In Yup'ik)

41
42 (Off record)

43
44 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

00345

C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

) ss.

STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 141 through 344 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the VOLUME ii, YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Meredith Downing on the 15th day of March 2001, beginning at the hour of 8:30 o'clock a.m. at the Community Hall in Kotlik, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 29th day of March 2001.

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 04/17/04